



The Letter to the Galatians - Freed To Be Free.

Galatians 2:11-21 - Christ is Life and Liberty

Aren't all people essentially good? The Scriptures say 'No'!

"Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." (Psalm 51:5)

"For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Overview:

Galatians: Freed to be Free

A unique Gospel	Made righteous by Faith	Freed to be Free
Chapter 1-2	Chapter 3-4	Chapter 5-6
Biographical	Doctrinal	Practical
The Message of the Apostle	The Redemption of Christ	The Walk By the Holy Spirit
The Gospel is true!	The Gospel is superior!	The Gospel is freedom!
Grace Defended	Grace Expounded	Grace Applied
Key Verse: "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who lives, but Christ who lives in me." (Gal 2:20)	Key Verse: "And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" (Gal 4:6)	Key Verse: "For freedom, Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." (Gal 5:1)

Galatians 1:13-2:10 summary.

- Paul's pre-Christian years, and conversion (Gal 1:13-17)
- He went away to Arabia for 3 years of solitude (Galatians 1:16b-17).
- His first visit with Peter and James and early years as a Christian (Gal 1:18-24)
- The council at Jerusalem (Gal 2:1-5)
- His sanction by James, Cephas, and John (Gal 2:6-10)

Galatians 2:11-14

- Vs 11-12: Even Peter was afraid of those from the circumcision party who came from James (most prominent elder of church at Jerusalem – Acts 12:17, 15:13-21, 21:18).
- Vs 13-14: Paul challenged Peter's hypocrisy to his face: "You are not living any more like a strict Jew, how can you now expect the Gentiles to live like strict Jews?"

"Paul's criticism of Peter were not concerned with getting Peter to eat shrimp and other "watery swarming things," but with getting Peter to realize how grand God's plan was: God's design was for all people to come to him through Christ and in the Spirit."

Scot McKnight. *Galatians – The NIV Application Commentary*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 1995).

- Paul's actions possibly prevented a rift developing between Jewish and Gentile Christians.

Galatians 2:15-21

- Vs 15-16: Comparing justification by faith versus doing the works of the law.

THE GOSPEL

"It is the good news that we sinners, guilty and under the judgement of God, may be pardoned and accepted by his sheer grace, His free and unmerited favour, on the ground of His Son's death and not for any works or merits of our own."

John Stott, *The Message of Galatians*, (Leicester: InterVarsity, 1984), page 54.

- Vs 17: '...justified in Christ.' – we are united with Christ!
- Vs 18: If we continue sinning in a wilful, habitual way, then we are only proving that we have not been truly saved!
- Vs 19-20: We have been united in Christ's death and raised to new life.

Memory Verse:

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20)