

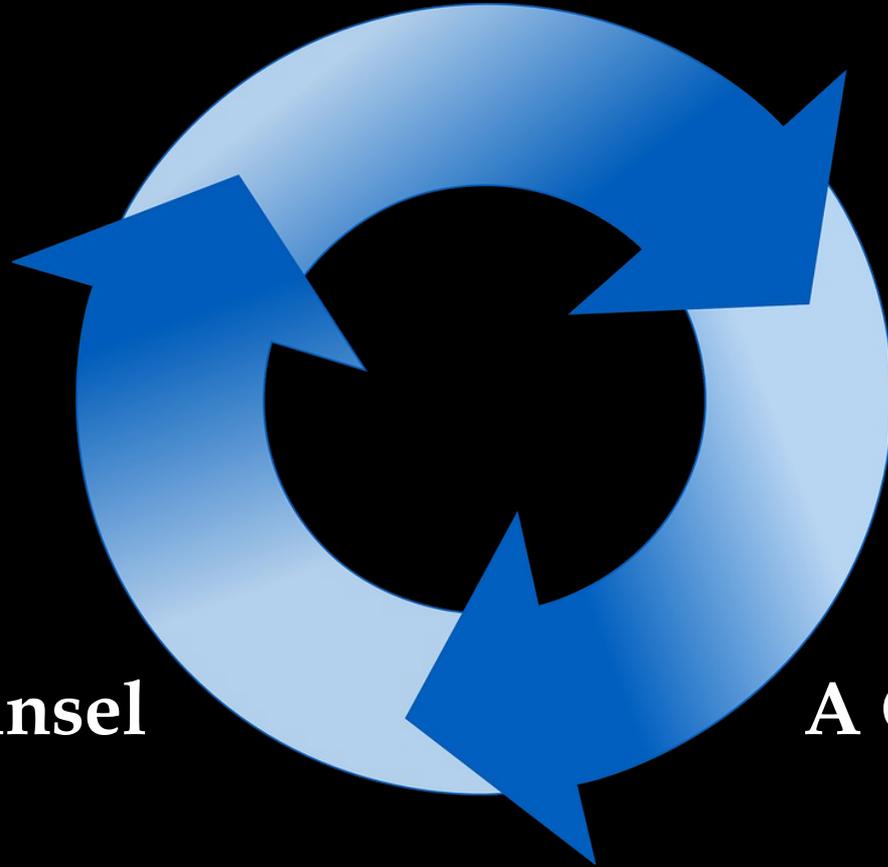


The Gospel in Galatians

7 Gospel Realities:

- Delivered by Christ (1:3–5)**
- Justified in Christ (2:15–16)**
- Crucified with Christ (2:19–20)**
- Baptized into Christ (3:27–29)**
- Adopted in Christ (4:4–7)**
- Conformed to Christ (4:19)**
- Indebted to Christ (5:24)**

The Text

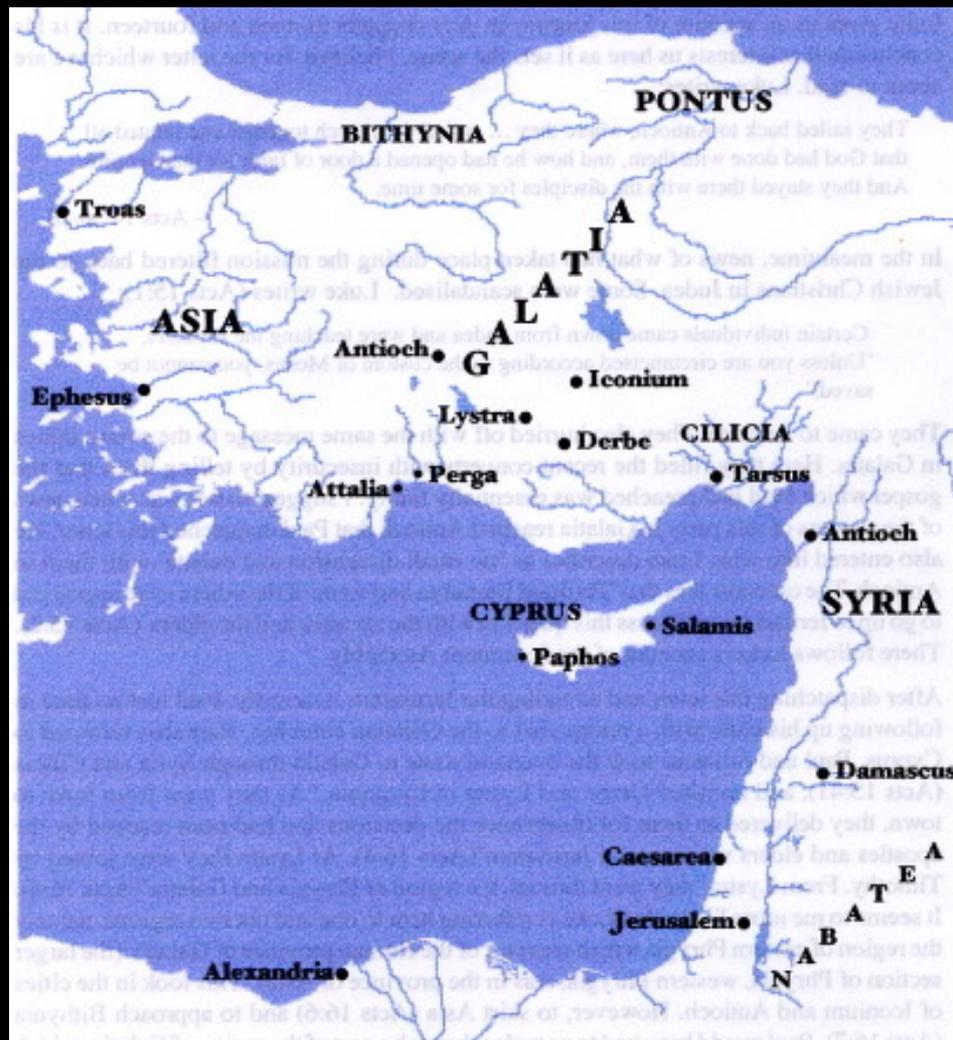


Pastoral Counsel

A Gospel Reality

The Text





(1) The *authority* of Paul's *ministry*

(2) The *accuracy* of Paul's *message*

What is at stake?

The Sole Sufficiency of Christ



Salutation (1:1–5)

Caution (1:6–10)

The Gospel “Revealed” (1:11–2:14)

The Gospel “Explained” (2:15–21)

The Gospel “Defended” (3:1–5:12)

The Gospel “Applied” (5:13–6:10)

Caution (6:11–17)

Benediction (6:18)

Question (2:14)

“If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

Answer (2:15–21)

You're acting contrary to what you know (2:15–16).

You're rebuilding what you've torn down (2:17–18).

You're denying the significance of the cross (2:19–20).

**You're implying that Christ died for no purpose
(2:21).**

**A Gospel Reality:
“Justified in Christ”
(2:15–16)**



“It is most necessary that we should know this article well, teach it unto others, and beat it into their heads continually.”

Martin Luther

-1-

**We must obey God's law,
to be right with Him.**

(3:10)

-2-

**We can't obey God's law;
therefore, we're condemned.**

(2:16; 3:2, 5, 10)

**“Enter not into judgment with your
servant, for no one living is righteous
before you” (Ps. 143:2).**

Transgression



Sin



Iniquity



-3-

**We must obey God's law
in the person of a Mediator.**

(4:4)



“Born under the law ...”

-4-

**We become one with the
Mediator through faith
(2:16; 3:2, 5, 7-9, 11, 14, 22)**

**Faith is God's gift whereby we know
Christ and apply Christ. We believe He
is really ours.**

**Such faith justifies because it's the
instrument whereby we apprehend
Christ.**

Component #1

The knowledge of Christ and His benefits.

“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent” (Jn. 17:3).

Component #2

The application of Christ and His benefits.

We personally receive that which God offers us (John 1:12; 6:35). We believe the gospel; that is, we apply it to ourselves.



-5-

**God justifies us
(3:8, 11, 24; 5:4)**

**God accepts the Mediator's death
as if it were ours.**

**God accepts the Mediator's obedience
as if it were ours.**

**“Blessed is the one whose transgression
is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Blessed is the man against whom the
Lord counts no iniquity”
(Ps. 32:1-2; Rom. 4:7-8).**

Pastoral Counsel



(1) Keep your focus on Christ.

**Rather than filling our minds with fear,
worry, regret, and shame; we need to fill
them with Christ.**

**We must live continually in the sight of
Christ's infinite merit.**

“Sinner, you think that I cannot save you, because of your sins. Behold, My Son is beside Me. I am looking at Him, not you. And I will deal with you as I am pleased with Him.”

(2) Confess sin without delay or hesitation.

**Am I guilty enough? Am I upset enough?
Why would God hear me?**

**We should keep a very short account
with God.**

(3) Obey in the light of Christ's perfect obedience.

*Legal obedience vs.
Evangelical obedience*

We don't need to obey perfectly, serve perfectly, pray perfectly, or worship perfectly – but sincerely.

**Christ has freed us to wage war
with our sin.**

**(4) Immerse yourself in the blessings of
union with Christ.**

**“Christ’s infinite satisfaction must be
your justification before God.”**

Thomas Wilcox