

**galatians**  
**ephesians**  
**philippians**  
**colossians**  
**philemon**

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**NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION**

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***GALATIANS***  
***EPHESIANS***  
***PHILIPPIANS***  
***COLOSSIANS***  
***PHILEMON***



# Galatians

**1** Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—<sup>2</sup>and all the brothers and sisters<sup>a</sup> with me,

To the churches in **Galatia**:

<sup>3</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup>who gave himself for our sins to **rescue** us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, <sup>5</sup>to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## *No Other Gospel*

<sup>6</sup>I am **astonished** that you are so **quickly deserting** the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—<sup>7</sup>which is really no gospel at all. **Evidently** some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to **pervert** the gospel of Christ.<sup>8</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse!<sup>9</sup> As we have already said, so now I say again: If **anybody** is preaching to you a gospel other than what you **accepted**, let them be under God's curse!

<sup>10</sup>Am I now trying to win the **approval** of human **beings**, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

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<sup>a</sup><sup>2</sup> The Greek word for *brothers and sisters* (*adelphoi*) refers here to believers, both men and women, as part of God's family; also in verse 11; and in 3:15; 4:12, 28, 31; 5:11, 13; 6:1, 18.

## *Paul Called by God*

<sup>11</sup>I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human **origin**. <sup>12</sup>I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

<sup>13</sup>For you have heard of my **previous** way of life in Judaism, how **intensely** I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. <sup>14</sup>I was **advancing** in Judaism **beyond** many of my own age among my people and was **extremely** zealous for the **traditions** of my fathers. <sup>15</sup>But when God, who set me **apart** from my **mother's womb** and called me by his grace, was pleased <sup>16</sup>to **reveal** his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my **immediate** response was not to **consult** any human being. <sup>17</sup>I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I **returned** to **Damascus**.

<sup>18</sup>Then after **three** years, I went up to Jerusalem to get **acquainted** with Cephas<sup>b</sup> and **stayed** with him **fifteen** days. <sup>19</sup>I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother. <sup>20</sup>I **assure** you before God that what I am writing you is no lie.

<sup>21</sup>Then I went to **Syria** and **Cilicia**. <sup>22</sup>I was personally **unknown** to the churches of **Judea** that are in Christ. <sup>23</sup>They only heard the **report**: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." <sup>24</sup>And they **praised** God because of me.

## *Paul Accepted by the Apostles*

**2** Then after **fourteen** years, I went up again to Jerusalem, this time with Barnabas. I took Titus along also. <sup>21</sup>I went in response to a revelation and, **meeting privately** with those esteemed as **leaders**, I **presented** to them the gospel that I preach among the Gentiles. I **wanted** to be sure I was

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<sup>b18</sup> That is, Peter

not running and had not been running my race in vain. <sup>3</sup>Yet not even Titus, who was with me, was **compelled** to be circumcised, even though he was a **Greek**. <sup>4</sup>This matter **arose** because some false believers had **infiltrated** our **ranks** to **spy** on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves. <sup>5</sup>We did not give in to them for a **moment**, so that the truth of the gospel might be **preserved** for you.

<sup>6</sup>As for those who were held in high **esteem**—whatever they were **makes** no **difference** to me; God does not show favoritism—they added nothing to my message. <sup>7</sup>On the contrary, they recognized that I had been entrusted with the **task** of preaching the gospel to the uncircumcised,<sup>c</sup> just as Peter had been to the circumcised.<sup>d</sup> <sup>8</sup>For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to the Gentiles. <sup>9</sup>James, Cephas<sup>e</sup> and **John**, those esteemed as **pillars**, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of **fellowship** when they recognized the grace given to me. They **agreed** that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. <sup>10</sup>All they **asked** was that we should continue to remember the **poor**, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.

### *Paul Opposes Cephas*

<sup>11</sup>When Cephas came to **Antioch**, I opposed him to his **face**, because he stood condemned. <sup>12</sup>For before **certain** men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to **draw** back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was **afraid** of those who belonged to the circumcision **group**. <sup>13</sup>The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led **astray**.

<sup>14</sup>When I saw that they were not **acting** in **line** with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in **front** of them all, “You are

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<sup>c</sup>7 That is, *Gentiles*    <sup>d</sup>7 That is, *Jews*; also in verses 8 and 9    <sup>e</sup>9 That is, *Peter*; also in verses 11 and 14