

**Providence Reformed Baptist Church - Wednesday, June 30, 2021**

**Bible Study Series: Living by Faith – Galatians**

**Lesson 5. The Gospel Revealed – Gal. 1:11-12**

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The gospel Paul preached was not of human origin – it was not man-made. And neither was it given to him by men. Christ revealed Himself to Paul on the road to Damascus. He was preaching God's gospel!

- I. Galatians Outlined
  - A. Paul's Spiritual Autobiography – Ch. 1-2 – a true apostle who preaches the gospel of grace
  - B. The Theology of the One True Gospel – Ch. 3-4 – expounding the doctrine of justification by faith alone
  - C. Application of Doctrine Presented – Ch. 5-6 – the gospel in daily life – “faith working through love”
  - D. “What God has done (1-2) teaches us what we should believe (3-4) and how we should live (5-6).” - Ryken
- II. The Gospel Gossiped – vs. 11
  - A. Made Known
    1. New knowledge, not a reminder of something already known
    2. The gospel which was preached by me
      - a. The euangelion that was euangelized
      - b. The gospel that I gossiped to you
  - B. Not According to Man
    1. Not from or through man – see Gal. 1:1
    2. “The gospel is not man's good news about God; it is God's good news for man.” – Ryken
    3. The gospel is not what we do for God – it is what God has done to save us through Jesus
    4. “Therefore neither is the Church, nor Peter, nor the Apostles, nor angels from heaven, to be heard, unless they bring and teach the pure Word of God.” – Luther
- III. The Revelation of Jesus Christ – vs. 12
  - A. Neither Received by Man nor Taught by Man – Gal. 1:16-17
    1. “The knowledge of Christ and of faith is not a human work but utterly a divine gift.” – Luther
    2. Our salvation is rooted in God's elective choice – Gal. 1:15 (Paul was set aside before he was born)
      - a. He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world – Eph. 1:4-5
      - b. God chose us in love before we were able to choose or love Him
      - c. He called us by grace and we believed
      - d. God revealed His Son to our hearts by the Holy Spirit
  - B. It Came Through Revelation
    1. Unveiled, previously unknown
    2. The Revelation of Jesus Christ – Acts 9:1-22; Rev. 1:1-2
      - a. Paul received the gospel from Christ directly
      - b. Jesus was revealed to Paul personally
      - c. The Damascus Road event was not a vision, but a direct, personal revelation
      - d. Christ revealed Himself to Paul – Acts 26:12-29

## **Cross References**

### **Galatians 1:1**

1 Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead),

### **Galatians 1:16-17**

16 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

### **Galatians 1:15**

15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,

### **Ephesians 1:4-5**

4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

### **Acts 9:1-22**

9 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" 5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." 6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." 7 And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. 8 Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. 10 Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." 11 So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. 12 And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." 13 Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." 17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. 19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. 20 Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. 21 Then all who heard were amazed, and said, "Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that

purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?" 22 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ.

## **Revelation 1:1-2**

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, 2 who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.

## **Acts 26:12-29**

12 "While thus occupied, as I journeyed to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests, 13 at midday, O king, along the road I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and those who journeyed with me. 14 And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' 15 So I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 16 But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. 17 I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, 18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.' 19 "Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance. 21 For these reasons the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. 22 Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come— 23 that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles." 24 Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!" 25 But he said, "I am not mad, most noble Festus, but speak the words of truth and reason. 26 For the king, before whom I also speak freely, knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing was not done in a corner. 27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe." 28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian." 29 And Paul said, "I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains."

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