

**Going AWOL from Grace
Galatians at a Gallop (Message 2)**

**Galatians 1:6–23
INTRODUCTION**

Dr. John Niemelä

Grace Chapel

August 13, 2006

REVIEW

Paul wrote Galatians in AD 49 to the south Galatian churches (located in Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe) where Paul had ministered in Acts 13–14. Paul has made one trip to Galatia and two trips to Jerusalem before writing Galatians. As we saw last time, this argues for the South Galatian theory and against the North Galatian theory. The most important implication is this: Acts 15 occurs after Paul wrote Galatians, not before.

Paul, a divinely appointed apostle, wishes grace & peace to the Galatians from the Father and the risen Son, who paid for our sins that He might remove us from this present evil age (Gal 1:1–4)

NEW EXPOSITION

1:6–7 Paul is shocked that the Galatians so quickly were departing from the grace gospel

Paul pioneered in Galatia from (October 48 to mid-summer 49). He wrote Galatians in late fall 49.

1:8–9 Paul proclaims (temporal) judgment from God upon those who pervert the gospel

The word translated *accursed* in the NKJ (verses 8–9) is *anathema*

The NIV erred severely by rendering it *eternally condemned*

Mark 14:71 Then he began to ~~curse~~ [anathematize] and swear, “I do not know this Man of whom you speak!”

Acts 23:12b some of the Jews banded together and ~~bound~~ [anathematized] themselves under an oath, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.

Acts 23:14b We have ~~bound ourselves under a great oath~~ [anathematized ourselves with an anathema] that we will eat nothing until we have killed Paul.

Acts 23:21b men who have ~~bound themselves by an oath~~ [anathematized themselves] that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him; & now they are ready, waiting for the promise from you.

Romans 9:3 For I could wish that I myself were ~~accursed~~ [anathema] from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh,

1 Cor 12:3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus ~~accursed~~ [anathema], and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor 16:22a If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be ~~accursed~~ [anathema].

1:10 Paul is not a man-pleaser, but a God-pleaser [contrary to what the legalists charge]

1:11–24 Rather than being a man-pleaser, Paul’s message was never mediated by man, but God

1:11–16a Man did not mediate Paul’s gospel BEFORE he believed in Christ

1:11–12 Paul’s message was not mediated by man, but was directly revealed by God

1:13–14 As someone who excelled in Judaism and who persecuted the Church, [Paul has a greater command of both Judaism and Christianity than do the legalists]

1:15–16a God prepared Paul throughout his early life to preach the gospel to Gentiles

1:16a–24 Man did not mediate Paul’s gospel AFTER he believed in Christ

1:16b–17 Rather than studying under the apostles in Jerusalem, Paul isolated himself

1:18–20 Three years later Paul met briefly with Peter and James, but no other apostles

1:21–22 Paul spent the time until he revisited Jerusalem around Antioch and Tarsus, not Judea

1:23–24 The Judean churches rejoiced at reports that Paul, the former persecutor now preached the same message as they

CONCLUSION AND APPLICATION