

# Galatians

## Chapter One

### Verse 3

1. "Grace" is the key word of this letter. It's used seven times, but the theme of grace is seen throughout.
2. What beautiful words: grace and peace. Because of God's grace, there can now be peace between sinful man and a holy God. **Rom. 5:1**
3. Grace and peace are the opposites of judgment and war.
  - When Christ returns to this earth, He will judge and make war. **Rev. 19:11**
  - Mankind has declared war on God (the Gentile nations and Israel) through rejecting Jesus Christ, God's Son. God will one day make a counter-declaration. **2 Thess. 1:7-10**
  - We are living **in between** man's declaration of war on God and God's counter-declaration of war on man.
  - We are living during "the dispensation of the grace of God" when God is offering to his enemies everywhere peace by grace through faith in His rejected Son. What grace! What a message to proclaim!!
4. Grace from God and peace with God are now available to all mankind. **2 Cor. 5:19** – God's part in reconciliation has already been accomplished through Christ.
  - It is no longer the **sin** question, but the **Son** question. If people remain unreconciled it will be because of their rejection of Christ and His redemptive work.

### Verse 4

1. What a verse! What love! What grace!
2. This verse very concisely explains what Jesus did for us and why He did it.
3. The only reason that the grace and peace of verse 3 can be offered is because Christ "...gave himself for our sins."
  - His sacrifice was voluntary. **John 10:18**
  - His sacrifice was offered out of complete submission to the will of the Father. **Phil 2:8, Mt. 26:39, Jn. 5:30**
  - His sacrifice was given out of love. **Gal.2:20**
4. "(He) gave himself for **our** sins."
  - God is a holy God and cannot condone sin.
  - Sin must be judged and the penalty is death. **Rom. 6:23 cf. Rev. 20:14-15**
  - But, God is not only a God of justice; He is a God of love. So God came to earth and paid our sin debt for us on the cross. **2 Cor. 5:19,21**
5. When the sinner believes on Jesus Christ and accepts Him as Savior, a complete change of identity occurs.
  - He is delivered **from** this present evil world. This world is deserving of God's judgment and is racing 100 miles per hour towards God's judgment and wrath. We are living in Satan's world system.

- We live in a world of godlessness, crime, violence, blasphemy, lust, sin, wickedness, dishonesty, and a disregard for God and His moral law. But we can rest assured, payday is coming! **Rom. 1:29-32, 2:2-6, Acts 17:31, 2 Thess. 1:7-9**
  - But, those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ have been delivered from this present world and the wrath that will come upon it. **1 Thess. 1:10, 5:9**
  - But that's only part of it - God has also made us members of a new kingdom. **Col. 1:13. 2 Tim. 4:18**
  - We are already seated there according to **Eph. 2:6.**
    - Illustration: Our elected representatives in Washington D.C. are said to be "seated" in the halls of Congress even when they are physically absent from that place. Their "seats" speak of prestige, honor, and authority. It is a matter of position.
6. We have been **delivered** from this evil world and **seated** in the heavenlies. It's all because Christ gave Himself for our sins.

### Verse 5

1. Paul just breaks out in praise.
2. Christ dying for our sins and our deliverance from this evil world and our new identity in heavenly places are all to God's glory.
3. God's glory and grace will be displayed through us in the ages to come. **Eph. 2:6-7**