

## Getting Out the Good News of His Grace Galatians 1:1-9

### Introduction:

1. I've heard Christians say things like:
  - "I don't know why God lets him get away with that. God should just zap him."
  - "That is such a wicked nation. God is going to really judge them."
  - About a certain group of people - "They are so perverted, God should blast them all."
2. I am thankful to be able to tell you today that God is not zapping sinners, nor is He judging nations, nor is He blasting people groups.
3. Do you know what God is doing? God is offering **grace** to sinners. If God was in the business of zapping sinners today, I would have already been zapped.
4. God is, in fact, in the business of **saving** sinners. **1 Timothy 1:15**
5. God reached down and in sheer grace saved a blaspheming, violent, abusive man who beat, arrested, jailed, and murdered believers in Jesus Christ. This man was Saul of Tarsus, known to us as the apostle Paul.
6. Paul said that he obtained mercy that he might be a pattern to those who would believe on Christ after him. **1 Timothy 1:16**
7. Church - our mission is to get out the message of God's grace to this world. The reason we serve, the reason we do outreach events, the reason we give of our resources, the reason we have a local church at 1851 S. Clyde Morris Blvd. is so we can get out the message of God's grace.
8. Why is it so crucial for our church to get out the message of God's grace?

### First, because peace with God is now being offered. vs. 3

1. Paul greets the churches of Galatia with two absolutely beautiful words - grace and peace. Notice they come from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Because of God's grace, peace is now possible between a holy God and sinful mankind.
3. What is the opposite of grace and peace?
  - The opposite of grace would be judgment.
  - The opposite of peace would be war.
4. Did you know that the Bible teaches that one day Christ will return to this earth, and when He does, He will **judge** and **make war**? **Revelation 19:11**
  - Mankind declared war on God (the Gentiles nations and Israel) through rejecting Jesus Christ, God's Son. God will one day make a counter-declaration.  
**2 Thessalonians 1:7-10**
  - We are living in between man's declaration of war on God and God's counter-declaration of war on man.
5. We are living in the dispensation of the grace of God when God is offering to His enemies everywhere **peace**. Without His grace there could be no peace. **Titus 2:11**
6. Grace **from** God and peace **with** God are now available to all mankind. When people talk about God zapping people and judging people, rest assured they don't understand God's Word and what God is doing today.

7. Over and over Paul refers to God as "*the God of peace.*" Do you have peace with God? You can! God is offering you and me, as sinners, peace with Himself.
8. We must get God's message of grace out. Why is this? Because based on this grace, God is extending an offer of peace to sinful mankind. What a shame for someone to live and die and never know about this peace offer from God.  
**Illustration:** People living in woods after Civil War who thought the war was still going.

**Second, because a complete sacrifice for sin has been made. vs. 4**

1. Sin separates mankind from a holy God. God cannot condone sin. If He did, He would not be a holy God. God must judge sin and the penalty is death.  
**Romans 6:23; cf. Revelation 20:14-15**
2. There is only reason why God can offer peace with sinners today. Verse 4 declares that Christ gave Himself for our sins.
  - Christ, the sinless One, gave Himself voluntarily as the perfect sacrifice for our sin. **Romans 5:6, 8**
  - God is offering peace to sinners because He can justly do it based on the sacrifice that Christ made on our behalf.
3. God's part in reconciliation has already been accomplished through Christ.  
**2 Corinthians 5:19**
4. It is not longer the **sin** question, but the **Son** question. If people remain unreconciled to God it will be because of their rejection of Christ and His redemptive work on the cross.
5. On the other hand, when a sinner chooses to believe on Jesus Christ and accept Him as Savior, they are immediately delivered from this evil world. After this time of grace is over, God's wrath and judgment will come on this satanic world system.
  - But if you have placed your faith and trust in Jesus Christ, you have been delivered from the wrath to come on this world.
  - Not only this, God makes you a member of His heavenly kingdom.  
**Colossians 1:13**
6. All of this is because of Christ and His atoning sacrifice for sin. **Romans 5:1; Colossians 1:20**
7. Oh, how the world needs this message that Christ has made a way of reconciliation!

**Third, because Satan is filling minds with many false gospels. vs. 6-9**

1. Satan's business today is that he is trying to blind people from the truths you just heard. **2 Corinthians 4:4**
2. He blinds people by getting them to believe a false gospel. This is what he was endeavoring to do at Galatia. vs. 6-7
3. The Jewish legalists were coming in and proclaiming a gospel of works. They were telling people that they had to not only believe on Christ, but **also** keep the Law of Moses with all its religious rites and ceremonies. **Acts 15:1**
4. Paul denounces this as being no gospel at all, but a corruption of the true gospel. vs. 8-9

5. There are a multitude of religious systems in the world today, but they all have two things in common:
  - They teach that you have to keep the rules and rites of their religious system to even have a chance of being right with God. This is a religion of works.  
**Ephesians 2:8-9**
  - They all deny the total sufficiency of Christ's work to save sinners. It is always Christ plus something else.
6. Paul's gospel was one of pure grace. **Ephesians 1:7**
7. Church, if we don't get out the message of the true gospel of God's grace, who is going to do it? God has left us here as His ambassadors to proclaim this incredible gospel of grace.
8. What are you doing to help in getting this message out? People desperately need to be loosed from the cords of religion and be set free by understanding and then believing the gospel of the grace of Jesus Christ.