



GALATIANS 1:1-5 - THE TRAILER

INTRODUCTION

The letter of Galatians, was likely the first of many letters written by Paul the Apostle. Galatia was a region in the Central/Southern part of modern day Turkey, and was one of the first places Paul was privileged to take the good news (Gospel) of Jesus', life, death & resurrection. After leaving that region, tradition bound religious leaders came in, discrediting Paul's ministry, challenging Paul's message, and confusing the believers with a list of new instructions to follow. This letter is not a happy one. Paul is greatly concerned for these believers, that they return to the Gospel he shared with them. Having been a Pharisee himself before conversion, Paul was well aware of the destructive nature that a moralistic legalism, poses. In short, Paul wanted to make sure that these believers were living in the freedom that Jesus brought, and not getting entangled into a rules based religion.

DISCUSSION

Why is the Gospel so important, and how has it changed your life?

EXAMINATION

- Why does Paul start this letter by defending his apostleship?
- What does Paul stress about his apostleship?
- According to vs 3 what did Jesus accomplish for us?
- What is sin? Why is it something that Jesus had to die for?
- What does Paul mean by, "this present evil age", and what does it mean to be "delivered" from it?
- Why do you think that it was "God's will" (vs4) that Jesus died?

APPLICATION

Paul is passionate about the Gospel because God's passionate about the Gospel. Elsewhere Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16). It doesn't just have power, or create power, *it is the* power of God. Have you experienced the Gospel's power? Do you feel passionate about the good news of God's loving action in reaching out to help and deliver us? How can others pray for you to be passionate and moved by the Gospel?



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