

# Galatians

## Chapter 1:13-24

- I. **Galatians 1:13-14**<sup>13</sup>For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: <sup>14</sup>And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.
  - a. Heard
    - I. **What the churches in Galatia heard versus what they saw. They heard about Paul's past. They saw who Paul was in Christ.**
  - b. Conversation
    - I. **Conversation- Greek word *anastrophe*- Strongs Con. from G390 behavior:—conversation.**
    - II. **It's the idea of manner of life, conduct, behaviour, deportment**
    - III. **Anastrophe is translated in all 13 occurrences as "conversation".**
  - c. Time Past
    - I. **Paul used the phrase "conversation in time past" in Ephesians 2:3 using the verb form of this word.**
      1. **Ephesians 2:3**<sup>3</sup>Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
    - II. **Another way the Judaizers would discredit Paul is by bringing up his past. This is a devastating tactic used against believers today. Paul didn't hide from the past and it is mentioned in scripture many times.**
  - d. Persecuted the Church

## I. Saul on the road to Damascus

1. **Acts 7:58** <sup>58</sup>And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.
2. **Acts 8:1-3** <sup>1</sup>And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. <sup>2</sup>And devout men carried Stephen *to his burial*, and made great lamentation over him. <sup>3</sup>As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.
3. **Acts 9:1-3** <sup>1</sup>And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, <sup>2</sup>And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
  - a. **Saul's mission was moving from Judea and continuing on to Damascus.**
4. **Acts 9:13-16** <sup>13</sup>Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: <sup>14</sup>And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: <sup>16</sup>For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

5. **Acts 11:19**<sup>19</sup> Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.
6. **Acts 26:11**<sup>11</sup> And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled *them* to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted *them* even unto strange cities.
  - a. **See also (Acts 22:5-16, Acts 26:12-18)**

## II. Church

1. **Not body of Christ. There were many gathering of people in scripture. Paul was referencing the early Jewish Church.**
2. **Church- Greek word *ekklesia*-** Strongs Con. from a compound of G1537 and a derivative of G2564; a calling out, i.e. (concretely) a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation (Jewish synagogue, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both):—assembly, church.
  - a. **Acts 7:38**<sup>38</sup> This is he, that was in the **church in the wilderness** with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and *with* our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:
  - b. **Acts 19:32**<sup>32</sup> Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for **the assembly** was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.
- e. Profited in the Jew's religion
  - I. **Paul references this in Philippians chapter 3 verses 1-8. Ultimately, he talks about the one thing he does in Philippians 3:13.**

1. **Philippians 3:13-14**<sup>13</sup>Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

f. Traditions of my fathers

I. **Paul mentions traditions here but emphasizes scripture after he gets saved.**

1. **Romans 10:17** <sup>17</sup>So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2. **II Timothy 2:15** <sup>15</sup>Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

II. **Galatians 1:15-16** <sup>15</sup>But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called *me* by his grace, <sup>16</sup>To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

a. Called me by his grace

I. **"By the grace of God"**

1. **I Corinthians 15:10** <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which *was bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

II. **"According to the grace of God"**

1. **I Corinthians 3:10** <sup>10</sup>According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

III. **"Justified by his grace"**

1. **Titus 3:7** <sup>7</sup>That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

#### IV. “Grace hath appeared to all men”

1. **Titus 2:11** <sup>11</sup>For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup>Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

#### b. To reveal his son

- I. **I Timothy 2:3-7** <sup>3</sup>For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; <sup>4</sup>Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; <sup>6</sup>Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. <sup>7</sup>Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, *and* lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

- II. **I Timothy 1:16** <sup>16</sup>Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

- III. **Ephesians 3:8** <sup>8</sup>Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

#### c. Heathen

- I. **Acts 11:19** <sup>19</sup>Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

1. **Jews only were preached to...7 years after Pentecost**

- II. **Genesis 12 to Acts 9**

1. **God was dealing with Israel**

#### d. Conferred not

- I. **Acts 9:27** <sup>27</sup>But Barnabas took him, and brought *him* to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen

the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

**II. Paul didn't confer with the 12.**

III. **Galatians 1:17-24**<sup>17</sup>Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus. <sup>18</sup>Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. <sup>19</sup>But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. <sup>20</sup>Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not. <sup>21</sup>Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia; <sup>22</sup>And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ: <sup>23</sup>But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed. <sup>24</sup>And they glorified God in me.

a. Did Luke contradict this account

I. **Acts 9:26-28**<sup>26</sup>And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. <sup>27</sup>But Barnabas took him, and brought *him* to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. <sup>28</sup>And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

b. Arabia and Damascas (show map)

I. **Acts 9:23-25**<sup>23</sup>And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him: <sup>24</sup>But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. <sup>25</sup>Then the disciples took him by night, and let *him* down by the wall in a basket.

II. **II Corinthians 11:32-33**<sup>32</sup>In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me: <sup>33</sup>And

through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

1. **Why not Jerusalem immediately.**

### III. **Timeline**

1. **Paul is converted on the way to Damascus**

2. **Paul goes to Damascus**

3. **After three days Paul's eyes are opened**

4. **Paul preaches in Damascus**

5. **Paul flees Damascus under threat**

6. **Paul goes to Arabia**

7. **Paul comes back Damascus**

8. **After three years Paul goes to Jerusalem**

a. **Somewhere in the timeline the first initial visit to Jerusalem, that Luke mentions, Paul has an initial visit to Jerusalem.**

c. Most likely time spent in Mount Sinai

I. **Similar to Moses**

d. The leaders of the Jewish Church

I. **15 days with Peter**

1. **Those conversations could have been about similarities and the early start of the dispensation of grace.**

a. **II Peter 3:15-16**<sup>15</sup>And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; <sup>16</sup>As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

II. **Acts 29:30**<sup>29</sup>And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him. <sup>30</sup>*Which* when the brethren

knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

1. **visit cut short**

III. **Acts 22:17-21** <sup>17</sup>And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance; <sup>18</sup>And saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me. <sup>19</sup>And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: <sup>20</sup>And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him. <sup>21</sup>And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.

e. Only saw James

I. **James was like one of the “twelve”. He was the spokesperson for the “twelve”.**

f. I write to you

I. **Gentiles in the Galatian churches**

g. I lie not

I. **Paul stressing that this isn't his word or a story that he is telling, but truth.**

h. Cilicia (Paul's homeland)

I. **Tarsus**

1. **Acts 21:39**<sup>39</sup>But Paul said, I am a man *which am* a Jew of Tarsus, *a city* in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people.

i. But (Jewish believers)

I. Remember that the faith being discussed was a Jewish faith under the Kingdom program. Jesus was the Messiah. He is the Son of God. He is coming back to establish the Kingdom. Nothing about the mystery or the Heavens.

1. **Ephesians 3:1** <sup>1</sup>For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,
2. **Romans 16:25** <sup>25</sup>Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,
3. **Romans 2:16** <sup>16</sup>In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.
4. **II Timothy 2:8** <sup>8</sup>Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: