

# THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS

## CHAPTER 4:12-(17) 20

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“GIVE THEM JESUS!” – PART 1**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Evangelism, Missions, Preaching, Witnessing**

**INTRODUCTION**

*to the text*

*Galatians 4:12-20*

**In verses 8-11**, Pastor Paul laments the fact that those believers in Galatia had been polluted in their thinking...  
– they were regressing in their faith.

### With Passionate Enthusiasm

Paul **Admonishes** and **Exhorts** Them to Think Scripturally

Galatians 1:6-9

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

God promised His Gospel to mankind – that Gospel is not in Duplicate or Triplicate – It is eternal Gospel and it has never failed, it's never been defeated nor has it ever been added to nor deleted.

Galatians 3:1

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?

I was faithful to appeal to you based upon the facts  
“Jesus Christ was crucified”

**In Verse 12-20**, Pastor Paul goes after their hearts with a plea for their affection, calling to them to live passionately

## Paul is Such a Grand Example to Me

He knew when and how to **spank**. And he knew when and how to **embrace**

“whenever a spiritual **spanking** is in order,  
a spiritual **embrace** must soon follow.

### ***In Spank 101***

Matthew 18:15-17

"Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 "But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' 17 "And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

### ***In Embrace 101***

Galatians 6:1-2

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens,  
and so fulfill the law of Christ.

# By way of Textual Accuracy and Construction

## **Biblical scholars agree**

"That Galatians 4:12-20 is the most passionate, heartfelt section of scripture that Paul ever wrote."

He had a Heart for People - - Example of this

## **GIVE THEM JESUS!**

**A.) *Begins with our personal witness***

**vv. 12-15**

**1.) *Who you are privately* - will one day be known publicly v.12-13**

Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you. You have not injured me at all. 13 You know that because of physical infirmity  
**I preached the gospel to you** at the first.

Because of a very serious illness, Paul stopped in Galatia

### **Verse 13**

You know that because of physical infirmity  
**I preached the gospel to you** at the first.

**One of "God's Interruptions"  
You've gotta love em'**

# Who we really are - for real

## **Verse 12**

Brethren, I **urge** you to become like me, for I became like you

### **for I became like you**

When I came and preached among you, I didn't practice Judaism or anything else among you - nor did I say anything about the Law.

I ate what you ate. I dressed like you dressed. I came into your culture. I didn't introduce to you a different culture - Only Jesus

#### **1 Corinthians 9:19-22**

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; 20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; 22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

### **In Putting On Christ - *we put on His wisdom to reach the lost!***

#### Matthew 9:11

And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

#### Matthew 11:18-19

"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' 19 "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a gluttonous man and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children."

#### Mark 12:37

....And the common people heard Him gladly.

# GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else*

***Begins with our personal witness***

***Who you are privately - will one day be known publicly***

Philippians 3:4-8

though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. 7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

Paul over and over again

Challenged Christians to be like him – *privately too*

**It was undeniable – he loved them**

# GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else*

***“Begins with our personal witness”***

***Who you are privately - will one day be known publicly***

**2.) Our “Life Events” – will reveal who we really are v.14**

And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject,  
but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

***Our “Life Events” – will reveal who we really are***

**you did not **despise or reject,****

Whatever it was – it was public, visible, and embarrassing

2 Corinthians 12:6-11

For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me. 7 And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. 8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Paul Persevered in His Personal Witness – *with weakness*

Handicapped?  
Aren't we all handicapped in some areas?

...Often the areas that we need power in the most!

**Verse 14**

but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

**GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else***

***“Begins with our personal witness”***

- 1.) *Who you are privately* - will one day be known publicly**
- 2.) *Our “Life Events”* – will reveal who we really are**

**3.) *My life is to make a difference – Jesus is my example***

What then was the blessing you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me.

What then was the blessing you enjoyed?

**You had Joy before, Happiness, a  
Blessedness – it's gone now**

Jesus is no longer your LOVE - for doing what you do.  
No it's money, people, glory, power, ego, pride, and religion...

**But it's not Jesus anymore**

**They once loved Paul because they saw Jesus in Paul  
BUT LEGALISM STERILIZES YOU THAT WAY**

- but now they were infatuated with the Judaizers.  
They had shifted their affection to another...

They Loved Him - Convincingly

**GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else***  
***My life is to make a difference – Jesus is my example***

**Verse 15**

For I bear you witness that,  
if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes  
and given them to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ Listen to Paul's Recollection \_\_\_\_\_  
of their amazing love and appreciation for  
living a life of "Jesus in Him"

1. Whenever I **say** what Jesus would say
2. Whenever I **do** what Jesus would do
3. Whenever I **act** like Jesus would act

# People are Encouraged, Blessed, & Glad

***w.w.j.d.***

*what would jack do - isn't always what  
Jesus would do*

## That's **Not** "Jesus" in Me

if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes  
and given them to me.

## They once were very loving and generous

Ephesians 4:30-32

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

## **GIVE THEM JESUS** – *nothing else*

***B.) Being committed to live for others***

***vv. 16-17***

Have I therefore become your enemy - because I tell you the truth?

17 They zealously court you, but for no good; yes,  
they want to exclude you, that you may be zealous for them.



# GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else*

## *Being committed to live for others*

### 1.) *Being willing to tell them of error*

v.16

Have I therefore become **your enemy** because I tell you the truth?

Paul

“as your pastor. Have I become your enemy”

“...as long as we keep things superficial, all is well. But if (Titus 2:15 - Speak these things, exhorting you, and rebuking with all authority.) -

You Change Your View of Me  
*What a sad age we live in today...*

Church leadership / Priests

Then There are Those Who are Truly Called by God - *to do what they do!*

### Verse 16

Have I therefore become **your enemy**



enemy

2190 echthros (ech-thros');

to oppose, to stand up against. I.e. As Satan is against a believer. To a foe, one who hinders...

Hebrews 13:7

**Remember** (think about them often) those who rule over you, who have (speak) have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. (their witness = a blessed end of life – eternal)

“Jack, remember this, that the flock, by and large, think they love you until you have to shepherd them like Jesus – then what they say will be matched against what they do.”

- David Hocking to me 1990

Hebrews 13:17a

**Obey** (yield authority to) those who rule over you,

Have I therefore become **your enemy**

Hebrews 13:7b

**Submit**, (surrender your ground) for we watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Have I therefore become **your enemy**

Hebrews 13:24

**Greet** all those who rule over you, and all the saints.  
Those from Italy greet you.

Have I therefore become **your enemy**

**GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else***  
***Being committed to live for others***

**2.) *Being able to show them the error***

**v.17**

**They zealously court you**, but not for good; - yes,  
**they want to exclude you**, that you may be zealous for them.

Amplified version - Galatians 4:17

Those false teachers who are so anxious to win you over - are not doing it for your good but for theirs. What they're trying to do is to shut you off from us so that you will be dependant upon them  
– so you'll pay more attention to them.

Warren Wiersbe

“One of the marks of a false shepherd is that he **will seek to attract** people to themselves. – *“listen - I love you so much – more than anyone else, just listen, don’t watch*

**They Want You So Bad  
But they only want you as a number in the ranks.**

## ***The Cults are Like This*** ***Being able to show them the error***

Will not make the true pastor popular – *in a good way!*

2 Timothy 4:1-4

I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Revelation 3:18-20

"I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

### ***An Example of - being able to show them the error***

Titus 1:10-13

For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision (**legalist**), 11 whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. 12 One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." 13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,

***Peter Learned this Example from Paul...***

Galatians 2:11

Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face,  
because he was to be blamed;

Peter – “I’m not going to be an apostle anymore –  
James, take my name off the list.”  
*Paul hurt my feelings - I quit!!!*

Galatians 6:1

Brothers, if someone is **caught in a sin**, you who are spiritual should restore him  
**gently**. But watch out yourself, you to could be tempted like was.

Gently – with a humble attitude and spirit  
But not weak or wimpy-like

Jude 1:22-23

Try to help those who argue against you. Be merciful to those who doubt. 23 Save some by  
snatching them as from the very flames of hell itself. And as for others, help them to find the  
Lord by being kind to them, but be careful that you yourselves aren't pulled along into their  
sins. Hate every trace of their sin while being merciful to them as sinners.

**GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else***  
***Being committed to live for others***

**3.) *Being willing to tell them of truth***

**v.16**

Have I therefore become your enemy  
**because I tell you the truth?**

**because I tell you the truth?**

**L.A. Times Article on Hell is a no, no !**

## **People hate the Bible**

Because it tells us the Truth about who  
and what we are

**And people put it down at that point**

They don't keep reading to find out the  
end of the story

John 8:45

"But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.

Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

**because I tell you the truth?**

**GIVE THEM JESUS – *nothing else***  
***Being committed to live for others***

**4.) *Being able to show them the truth***

**v.17**

They zealously court you, **but not for good**; - yes,  
they want to exclude you, **that you may be zealous for them.**

***that you may be zealous for them.***

I only want your good – *love Paul*

I want you zealous for Jesus only – *love Jack*

## Being Motivated by Human Efforts is a Fading Hype at Best

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A true servant of God  
doesn't go about using people to exalt themselves.

A MARK OF A FALSE TEACHER  
ENRICHING HIS LIFE AT THE EXPENSE OF HIS FLOCK  
(FLEECING)

Deuteronomy 18:3-4

This is the payment due to the priests of my people who sacrifice a bull or a sheep: the shoulder, the jowls and the inner parts. 4 **You are to give them** the firstfruits of your grain, new wine and oil, and the first fleece from the shearing of your sheep,

“You are to give them, They must never ask it of you nor demand it”

I cannot imagine a pastor demanding his salary  
or setting his salary...

Proverbs 27:23-27

Be sure to know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; 24 for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations. 25 When the hay is removed and new growth appears and the grass from the hills is gathered in, 26 the lambs will provide for you your clothing, and the goats will provide the price of a field. 27 You will have plenty of milk to feed you and your family and to nourish those who serve.

Often Ministers are Quick to Say  
“You're Going to Need to Trust in the Lord”  
while they avoid the flock. Neglect the herd and take a field and steal the milk.

***They may be trusting in their resourcefulness – not God***

Proverbs 27:6

Faithful are the wounds of a friend,  
but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

The Galaitan Believers were being stimulated  
By the Deceitful Kisses of the Religious Legalists

Romans 10:4

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness  
to everyone who believes.

Where are you with Jesus today?  
And where are you with Jesus' Sheepdogs that watch over you?