

Jesus Christ, God's own Son Gave Himself.

Galatians 1:1 - 5 *“Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)* (2) *And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:* (3) *Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,* (4) *Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:* (5) *To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”*

Paul begins this letter in a combative way, to combat the Judaizers who were attempting to discredit the Apostles. Therefore, he begins by giving his credentials, *“an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)”* His doctrine differed, it was not about the law, or works, or anything else, it was about the Lord Jesus Christ as the Saviour of mankind. Paul went on to say that He (Jesus) is the gospel and outside of Him is not gospel and there is no salvation. People, whether Judaizers, Gnosticism, or even Arminianism of today, can change the gospel or the truth, because there is not another one. Nor can they change salvation or the Saviour, because there is not another one. **John 10:3, 5, 11 - 12, 11 - 12** *"To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. (5) And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.(11) I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. (12) But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep."* Paul make his point error proof, Jesus, God's Son, Jesus the image of God, Jesus the Saviour gave Himself for our sins to deliver those who are saved. People can create their own god, their own saviour, their own salvation, but their wrong because there is only one, and it's in Jesus Christ. Verse 4 says, *“Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:”*

In this one single verse we see 4 very important facts about our salvation:

1. *“Who gave himself...”*
 - a. This is Jesus Christ, the Son of God Who was also the Son of man. He surrendered Himself, of His own free act and will, to those who sought His death.

- b. Why did He surrender Himself, to be a Substitution for you and myself in His death. If you miss this point, you miss salvation.
 - c. Every perversion of the gospel taught today misses the substitution of the cross. Look what Paul wrote to Titus, **Titus 2:13 - 14** "*Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; (14) Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*"
 - d. The giving was as a substitute for us who are saved. **Ephesians 5:2** "*And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.*" - an offering and a sacrifice to God, not for Himself, but for us, in our place and for us to redeem us.
2. "...Who gave himself for our sins..."
- a. Notice the word "for" here, it means - "in place of" The death of Christ was a sacrifice for sinners. It was a sacrifice wrought in their behalf, for their benefit. It was also a sacrifice wrought in their stead as their substitute. Christ suffered in order that they might not suffer.
 - b. His death was FOR OUR SIN'S! The Just for the unjust, One for all the others. **John 11:50** "*Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.*"
 - c. The word "for" also implies an exchange, God gave His own Son in exchange for us to be His children. He gave His Son, to buy a family.
 - d. **2 Corinthians 5:14 - 15** "*For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: (15) And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.*" – The words "constraineth us" means - to hold together- His love is His sacrifice in our place as our substitute.
3. "...that he might deliver us..."
- a. The word "deliver" means - to tear out; figuratively to release: - to pluck out, rescue. – From an existing captivity from which we cannot deliver ourselves.
 - b. This is not a "decisional" thought on our part. Decisionism is a modern day lie, it is the blind leading the blind and they will all windup in the ditch. Matthew 15:14

“Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.” Did you know the word “ditch” means – deep hole or pit – yes it means hell. Their sickening invitations are merely man’s blind inventions to substitute for God’s deliverance.

- c. To deliver us means, to rescue us from, the total depravity of sin, because we cannot rescue ourselves. **John 8:34** *“Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”* Or a slave to sin, it owns you and you cannot escape.
4. *“...from this present evil world...”*
 - a. This is the area of our deliverance, no matter how streamline we are, what age we are, how learned we are, how uncultured we are, how refined we are, how advanced we are, how religious we are, we are still a “present evil world”. Sin still controls the depraved hearts and minds of the world; this will never change. **1 John 2:16** *“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”*
 - b. The only escape from this depraved and sin serving world is “deliverance” and that is only by Jesus Christ. God has said many times, we cannot remove ourselves, because it is a transfer and sinners do not want that transfer. Satan has us blinded and bounded to sin, so much so we drink it like water.
 - c. Therefore, God dispatched His own Son Jesus Christ to free us from Satan’s hand of control. **1 John 3:8** *“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”*
 - d. **Colossians 1:12 - 13** *“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: (13) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: (14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:”* The word “translated” means - to transfer, that is, carry away – because we cannot do it ourselves.

