

Paul's Letter to the



Galatians

The Compassionate Plea

Galatians 4:8-20



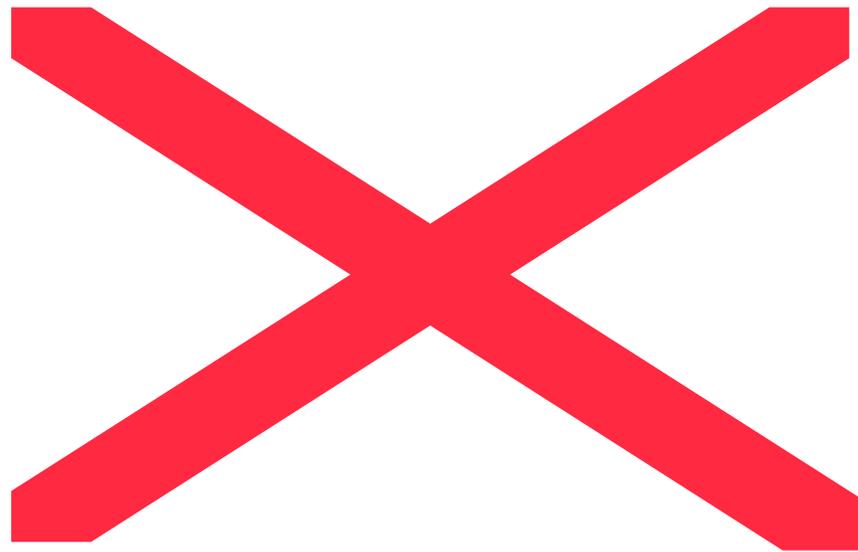
Pst Larry Arienzano

Canaan Celebration Service

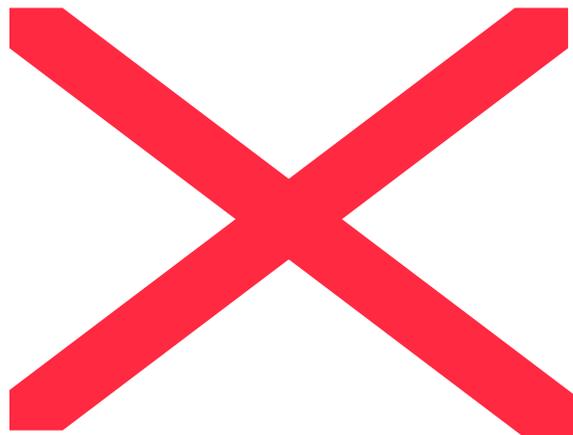
8 April 2018 • 10am • Level 4 Hall

84 St Francis Rd, Canaan Centre, S328069

The Galatians were living in spiritual bondage. But by the grace of God, Paul visited the region and told them about salvation in Christ.



Paul has been tough with the Galatians. He called them foolish. He has been scholarly also; reasoning with them in a deeply theological way.



Now he becomes tender. We see his pastoral heart here.

Paul's Letter to the
Galatians

The image shows the bottom portion of a book cover. The title 'Paul's Letter to the Galatians' is printed in a serif font. The word 'Galatians' is larger and bolder than 'Paul's Letter to the'. To the right of the title is a small, circular red stamp or seal.

PAUL GRIEVES FOR THEIR REGRESSION

⁸ Before you Gentiles knew God, you were slaves to so-called gods that do not even exist. ⁹ So now that you know God (or should I say, now that God knows you), why do you want to go back again and become slaves once more to the weak and useless spiritual principles of this world? ¹⁰ You are trying to earn favour with God by observing certain days or months or seasons or years. ¹¹ I fear for you. Perhaps all my hard work with you was for nothing.

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PAUL GRIEVES FOR THEIR REGRESSION

- **Why would Israel get freedom from Egypt and want to return to slavery again?**
- **Why would the Galatians with freedom in Christ want to turn back to the regulations of the Law?**
- **Why would a Christian today saved by grace return to the bondage of sin?**

Paul's Letter to the
Galatians



PRAY FOR YOUR PASTOR

97% of pastors have been betrayed,
falsely accused or hurt by their trusted friends.

70% of pastors battle depression.

7,000 churches close each year.

1,500 pastors quit each month.

10% will retire a pastor.

80% of pastors feel discouraged.

94% of pastor's families feel the pressure of ministry.

78% of pastors have no close friends.

90% of pastors report working

55-75 hours per week.

PRAY FOR YOUR PASTOR

**Sometimes in
ministry you find
yourself emotionally
down and perplexed.**



PAUL APPEALS FOR THEIR AFFECTION

12 Dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to live as I do in freedom from these things, for I have become like you Gentiles—free from those laws. You did not mistreat me when I first preached to you. **13** Surely you remember that I was sick when I first brought you the Good News. **14** But even though my condition tempted you to reject me, you did not despise me or turn me away. No, you took me in and cared for me as though I were an angel from God or even Christ Jesus himself. **15** Where is that joyful and grateful spirit you felt then? I am sure you would have taken out your own eyes and given them to me if it had been possible. **16** Have I now become your enemy because I am telling you the truth?

Galatians

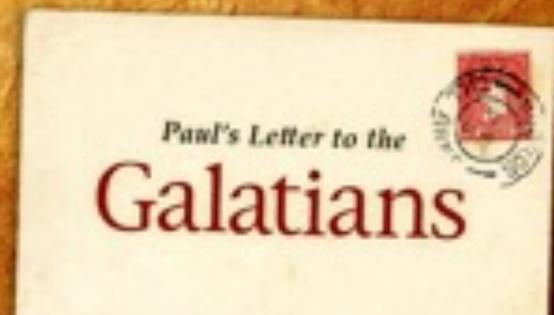
PAUL APPEALS FOR THEIR AFFECTION

- **Paul knew just how to balance rebuke with love.**
- **He turns from spanking to embracing as he reminds them of their love to him and his love for them.**
- **The Galatians were willing to sacrifice anything for Paul.**
- **So great was their love but now he had become their enemy.**
- **The Judaizers had come in and stolen their affection.**

¹⁷ Those false teachers are so eager to win your favor, but their intentions are not good. They are trying to shut you off from me so that you will pay attention only to them. ¹⁸ If someone is eager to do good things for you, that's all right; but let them do it all the time, not just when I'm with you.

**19 My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,
20 how I wish I could be with you now and change my tone, because I am perplexed about you!**

- **Paul compares his anguish for the Galatians to the labour pains of a mother to bring forth a child.**
- **He went through much pain to take the gospel to them.**



CONVICTION TO EMULATE: PAUL PREACHED THE GOSPEL WITH DEEP HEARTFELT COMPASSION.

We need this kind of concern for the lost and for those who leave the freedom of Christ and return to a yoke of slavery.

