

# Hearing Galatians with Moses

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February 5, 2023



Mystic Mill Capital  
Benedictine Abbey  
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Vézelay, France (12<sup>th</sup> cent. AD)

## The Nature and Purpose of this Study of Galatians:

*For two months we will study Galatians, exploring the relationship between the perspectives of Paul and Moses and the possible influence of the Torah as preserved in the book of Deuteronomy on the style and message of the apostle's first canonical epistle. By examining specific theological topics, hopefully we will grasp more transformingly both the gospel message of Galatians and Paul's respect and deep indebtedness to Moses, the founder of the prophetic lineage of which he viewed himself member.*

## The Heart of the Gospel: Hearing Galatians with Moses #1

(The word "gospel" occurs thirteen times in ESV: Gal 1:6, 7, 8, 9, 11; 2:2, 5, 7, 14; 3:8; 4:13)

1. Hearing Galatians (oral reading of the book)
2. Who am I to lead a study in Galatians?
3. When we read Galatians, what are we reading?
  - a. A Letter
  - b. Rhetoric
  - c. Prophetic Preaching at its finest
4. Who were Paul's addressees in Galatians?
5. Why did Paul write this book?

Outline of Galatians: "Recovering the Heart of the Gospel"

A. Epistolary Preamble (1:1–5)	(75)
B. Paul's <i>Apologia</i> (1:6–2:21)	(656)
1. The Occasion for Paul's <i>Apologia</i> (1:6–10)	(84)
2. The Substance of Paul's <i>Apologia</i> (1:11–2:14)	(442)
a. The Source of His Authority and Message (1:11–2:6)	(312)
• Paul's Thesis Statement (1:11–12)	(29)
• Paul's Testimony of God's Breaking into His Life (1:13–24)	(176)
• Paul's Demonstrated Commitment to the Gospel revealed to Him (2:1–6)	(107)
b. The Challenge to His Authority and Message (2:7–14)	(149)
3. The Significance of Paul's <i>Apologia</i> : The Essence of the Gospel (2:15–21)	(130)
C. Paul's Exposition of His Gospel (3:1–4:11) [Note the Frame: (1:1; 4:11)]	(606)
1. Paul's Opening Expression of Dismay (3:1–5)	(62)
2. Paul's Disputation (3:6–4:10)	(536)
a. The Thesis Statement (3:6)	(10)
b. The Lesson on Promise from Abraham (3:7–14)	(140)
c. The Contrast between Law and Promise (3:15–29)	(243)
d. The Privilege of Promise and Sonship (4:1–10)	(143)
3. Paul's Concluding Expression of Fear (4:11)	(8)
D. Paul's Appeal to Embrace the Freedom of the Spirit (4:12–5:6)	(364)
1. Paul's Personal Challenge (4:12–20)	(120)
2. Paul's Allegorical Challenge (4:21–31; ἀλληγορέω, "to allegorize")	(173)
3. Paul's Teleological Challenge (5:1–6)	(71)
E. Paul's Vision for the Ethical Response to the Gospel (5:7–6:10)	(390)
1. The Ethical Challenge of the Cross (5:7–12)	(64)
2. The Essence of a Covenantal Ethic (5:13–15)	(47)
3. The Contrast between a Canaanite and a Covenantal Ethic (5:16–25)	(125)
a. The Way of the Flesh (5:16–21)	(84)
b. The Way of the Spirit (5:22–25)	(41)
4. The Horizontal Dimensions of a Covenantal Ethic (5:26–6:10)	(154)
F. Epistolary Epilogue (6:11–18)	(121)
1. Paul's Personal Signature (6:11–13)	(42)
2. Paul's Personal Commitment (6:14–15)	(32)
3. Paul's Personal Benediction (6:16–18)	(47)

## The Structure of Galatians

	A. Epistolary Preamble	1:1-5
	B. Paul's <i>Apologia</i>	1:6-2:21
	1. The Occasion Calling for Paul's <i>Apologia</i>	1:6-10
	2. The Substance of Paul's <i>Apologia</i>	1:11-2:14
	a. The Source of His Authority and Message	1:11-2:6
	• Paul's Thesis Statement	1:11-12
	• Paul's Testimony of God's Breaking into His Life	1:13-24
	• Paul's Demonstrated Commitment to the Gospel Revealed to Him	2:1-6
	b. The Challenge to His Authority and Message	2:7-14
	3. The Significance of Paul's <i>Apologia</i> : The Essence of the Gospel	2:15-21
	C. Paul's Exposition of His Gospel	3:1-4:11
	1. Paul's Opening Expression of Dismay	3:1-5
	2. Paul's Disputation	3:6-4:10
	a. The Thesis Statement	3:6
	b. The Lesson on Promise from Abraham	3:7-14
	c. The Contrast between Law and Promise	3:15-29
	d. The Privilege of Promise and Sonship	4:1-10
	2. Paul's Concluding Expression of Fear	4:11
	D. Paul's Appeal to Embrace the Freedom of the Spirit	4:12-5:6
	1. Paul's Personal Challenge	4:12-20
	2. Paul's Allegorical Challenge	4:21-31
	3. Paul's Teleological Challenge	5:1-6
	E. Paul's Vision for the Ethical Response to the Gospel	5:7-6:10
	1. The Ethical Challenge of the Cross	5:7-12
	2. The Essence of a Covenantal Ethic	5:13-15
	3. The Contrast Between a Canaanite and a Covenantal Ethic	5:16-25
	a. The Way of the Flesh	5:16-21
	b. The Way of the Spirit	5:22-25
	4. The Horizontal Dimensions of a Covenantal Ethic	5:26-6:10
	F. Epistolary Epilogue	6:11-18
	1. Paul's Personal Signature	6:11-13
	2. Paul's Personal Commitment	6:14-15
	3. Paul's Personal Benediction	6:16-18