

The People Who Prevail

A Bible Study in Galatians

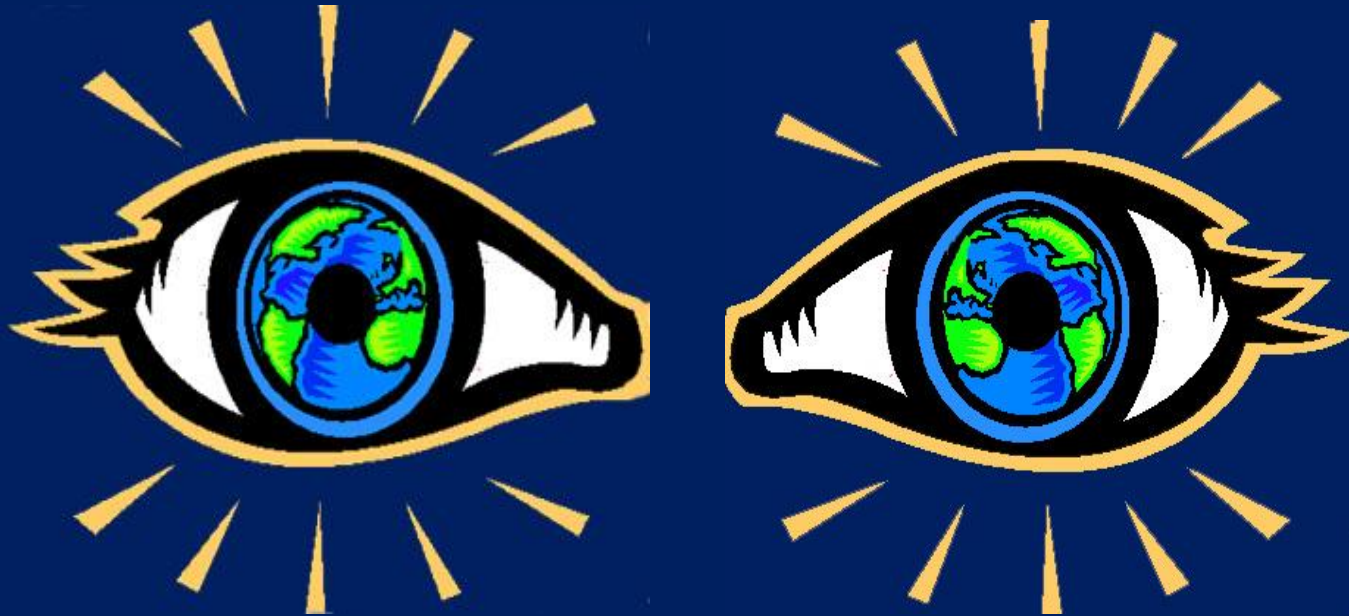
Session 1: The Israel of God

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus” (Gal. 6:15-17).

Who Is the Israel of God?

Who Make Up the People of God – the People Who Prevail?

To Understand that Question We Must Have Spiritual Eyes that Focus on God.



Do We Focus on “the People” Or Do We Focus on God – on Prevail?

The Name Israel (from a Compound Word “Prevail” and “God”) Means “God Prevails.”

Who Are the People of Israel?

Paul Expresses Concern for Israel:

“I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh” (Rom. 9:1-3).

But, He Knows that God Prevails:

“Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel” (Rom. 9:6).

Being an Israelite Does Not Make You “Israel.”

The People of True Israel Are the People in Whom God Prevails

The People of God Are the People Who Do Not “Frustrate Grace.”

The Children of Promise Or the Children of the Flesh

Not All Israel Is Israel:

Neither, Are All the Seed of Abraham the People of God.

Only in Isaac Shall the Seed of Abraham Be Called (Rom. 9:7).

The Children of the Flesh Are Not the Children of God, Even Though They Are the Descendant of Abraham.

From the Very Beginning of the People Who Would Be Called Israel a Distinction Is Being Made.

Only the Children of the Promise Are Counted for the Seed – the People Produced By God.

“For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son” (Rom. 9:9).

The People of Israel Defined Even Further

Not All Israel Is Israel

Not All the Descendants of Abraham Are the People of God

Not All the Descendants of Isaac Have the Right Relationship with God

“And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated” (Rom. 9:6-13)

Not All the Descendants of Jacob (Israel) Are the People of God

If Not All Israel Is Israel, Who Is the True Israel of God

“I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace” (Rom. 11:1-5).

The Gates of Hell Has Never Prevailed Against True Israel.

God Has Chosen Israel and the True Israel Is Alive and Well Today.

“And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16).

What Will Be the Marks of the People of God

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus” (Gal. 6:15-17).

“From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus” (Gal. 6:17).

Will Paul Prevail Because No Man Will Trouble Him, Or Will Paul Prevail Because No Man Will Trouble Him?

The Stigmata of Christ

Paul Stated:

“I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.”

Would the Stigmata of Christ Be Glory, Honor and Exaltation?

Or, Would They More Likely Be (Figuratively) Nail Prints in the Hands and Feet, Blood Dripping from Where the Crown of Thorns Set on His Head, and Blood Dripping from the Side?

“Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned . . .” (2 Cor. 11:23-25).

Which of the Above “Marks” of Christ Will Be More Likely to Produce “From henceforth let no man trouble me?”

Paul Had Been Taken to a Place, the Realm of the Spiritual that Was Deep in His Inner Being, It Was a Place Where His Life Was Not Controlled by His Senses.

Galatians 6:11-18

“Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand. As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh. But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen” (Gal. 6:11-18).

The Uniqueness of Galatians

Verse 11:

“Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand.”

May Be the Only Letter Written by Paul in His Own Hand.

Possibly His Failing Eyesight Would Force Him to Dictate His Later Letters

Perhaps, It Was the Bondage of Religion that Paul Saw Developing in the Galatians.



“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage” (Gal. 5:1).

Why It Is So Easy to Fall into Bondage of Religion

If You Have Not Been Taken to the Deep Inner Spiritual Place Where the Senses Are “Dead” and Particularly, If Your Senses Are Feasting on the Blessings of God, You Are in Danger of Being Stirred Away from the Hope of the Gospel by the Motivations of Religion.

Motivations of Religion

Religion Being Defined What Man Does to Gain the Favor of God or to Placate His Anger.

As Opposed, to True Christianity Which Is Defined as What God Has Done, Is Doing, and Will Do in and through Man.

“As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh” (Gal. 6:12,13).

Motivations of Religion

Personal Honor, Exhalation, and Glory that Comes from a Purpose Driven Life.

Constrain Others to Accept a Self-Driven, Self-Gratifying Challenge to Keep from Being Persecuted by a Self-Seeking Religion When the Preeminence of Christ Is Preached.

The Self-Satisfaction of Having Others Accept a Standard of Which You Have Set

BUT GOD FORBID . . .

“that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world” (Col. 6:14).

The Preaching of the Gospel (Life Comes Out of Death and Not Out of Self-Effort), the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Will Crucify the World to You and Will Cause the World to Crucify You.

The Only Means by Which You Can Be Taken to the Inner Spiritual Place of Rest

Experiencing the Place: the Mystery of Believing In Jesus

“From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus” (Gal. 6:17).

“Therefore, when he [Judas] was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you. A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me” (John 13:31- 14:1)

A Place Where No Man in Himself Can Go

Jesus Said:

**“Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you”
(John 13:33)**

How Jesus Said It to the Jews During the Feast of Tabernacles:

“Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me. Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come. Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles? What manner of saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come? In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:33-38).

The Place of Ultimate Spirituality

Jesus Said:

“Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me.”

Jesus Would Leave the World of the Physical and Go to the Realm of Ultimate Spirituality – the Realm of the Father.

If Any Man Would Believe in Jesus, then “Out of His Belly Shall Flow Rivers of Living Waters” (John 7:38).

In Jesus, the Believer Can Be Taken to the Place of Ultimate Spirituality – the Place (the Inner Most Being of Man) Where the Essence of Life Dwells.

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty” (Ps. 91:1).

The Place Where the Senses Do Not Control Life

Paul Said:

“From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus” (Gal. 6:17).

The Psalmist Said:

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation” (Ps. 91:1-9).

The Place Where Love Abounds

Jesus Said:

Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.”

Then, Jesus States a Profound Truth:

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:34,35).

To Understand What He Means, the Context Must be Understood:

Previous Verses:

“Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him” (John 13:31,32).

The Following Verses:

“Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” (John 13:33- 14:3).

The Place Has Something to Do with Love

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:34,35).

Understanding the Power of Love

“A new commandment I give unto you, that Ye Love . . .

“Commandment,” Means, “Injunction, i.e. an Authoritative Prescription”

From the Root, “To Enjoin,” Which, in Turn, Is from, “Properly, the Point Aimed at As a Limit, i.e. the Conclusion of an Act or State.”

“Love Is a Little More Difficult to Define:

Webster Says, “Strong Affection or Liking for Someone or Something; a Passionate Affection of One Person for Another:

“Love Is a Feeling that You Are Feeling When You Feel a Feeling that You Never Felt Before.”

“Love Exist When the Soul-Satisfaction of Another Is As Important As Your Own Soul-Satisfaction.”

“Love Is a Verb Every Time.”

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things” (1 Cor. 13:4-7).

Notice, All of these Definitions of Love Actually Do Not Define Love But Describe the Characteristics of Love.

In Original Language, There Are Three Different Words that Get Translated “Love.”

“Eros” – “of or Arousing Sexual Feelings or Desires”

“Philos” – “Liking,” Usually, Translated “Brotherly Love.”

“Agape” – “Love Dearly,” Usually, Understood as “Sacrificial Love.”

Love Defined

Based Upon the Context of John 13-16:

The Death of Jesus: “Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him” (John 13:31,32).

The Death of Peter: “Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake.” . . . “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.. (John 13:37, 14:1-3).

Based Upon the Context of John 3:16,17

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”

Not to Condemn But to Save -- i.e. Deliver or Protect

For Man Not to Perish But Experience the Life that Does Not Die

Love Has Something to Do With Jesus Being Taken to His Death and Then Being Raised to Become the Life of those Who Believe.

God Is Not Love and Then Out of that Love He “gave his only Begotten Son” – Jesus Being Sent to the Cross Is Love.

Love Defined

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:34,35).

The Context of Love

The Death of Jesus

The Death of Peter

God Is Not Love and Then Out of that Love He “gave his only Begotten Son” – Jesus Being Sent to the Cross Is Love.

Love Can Be Defined As an Energizing Force that Animates (Quickens) Its Recipient Toward the Fulfillment of the Purpose of which It Was Created.

Love Is the Power that Enable One to be Taken to Death to Experience Christ Coming Forth In His Glory.

Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you. A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 13:33-John 14:3).

"From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus" (Gal. 6:17).

