

We're so happy you received a New Testament Recovery Version! This Bible has many study tools that can greatly enrich your study of the Word, and we'd like to help you get the most out of them.

When you first open your New Testament, you might have some questions: What's all the writing at the bottom of the pages? What are the subjects and outlines for? How do I use all this to study the Bible?

We've put together this quick-and-easy guide to answer these questions and familiarize you with each study tool. We pray God would richly bless your reading and studying of His Word!

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS

Author: The apostle Paul (1:1).

Time of Writing: Approximately A.D. 54, during Paul's second ministry journey, after traveling through Galatia and arriving in Corinth (Acts 18:1, 11).

Place of Writing: Corinth, while Paul was there for a year and a half (Acts 18:1-11).

Recipients: The churches in Galatia (1:2)

Subject:
Christ Replacing the Law
and Being versus Religion and Tradition

CHAPTER 1

I. Introduction—
The Will of God to Rescue Us
out of the Evil Religious Age
1:1-5

¹ ^{1a}Paul, an ^bapostle (^{2c}not from men nor through man but ^athrough Jesus Christ and God the Father, who ^{3e}raised Him from the dead),

¹ The books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians form a cluster of Epistles that make up the heart of the divine revelation in the New Testament. The essential subject of these four books is Christ and the church. Galatians reveals that Christ is versus religion with its law; Ephesians reveals the church as the Body of Christ; Philippians concerns the experience, the living out, of Christ; and Colossians unveils the all-inclusive and all-extensive Christ as the Head of the Body.

¹ The purpose of this book is to cause its receivers to know that the gospel preached by the apostle Paul was not from man's teaching (vv.

11-12) but from God's revelation. Hence, in the very opening of this book Paul emphasized that he became an apostle not from men nor through man but through Christ and God.

¹ The law dealt with man as the old creation, whereas the gospel makes man the new creation in resurrection. God made Paul an apostle not by the law according to his natural man in the old creation but through the resurrection of Christ according to his regenerated man in the new creation. Hence, Paul did not say here, "God the Father, who gave the law through Moses;" but "God the Father, who raised Him [Christ] from the

^{1a} Acts
7:58;
8:1-3;
9:1-30;
11:25,
30;
13:1-4,
7, 9, 13;
15:2
^{1b} Gal.
2:9;
Rom.
1:5;
1 Cor.
9:1-2, 5;
15:9;
2 Cor.
11:5;
12:11
^{1c} Gal.
1:11-12
^{1d} Acts
9:15;
20:24;
26:16
^{1e} Acts
2:24

COMPLETE OUTLINES (NOT PICTURED)

A complete outline accompanies each book, which provides an overview of the book and helps you understand its structure and main points.

SUBJECT STATEMENTS

These tell you the overall subject of each book.

OUTLINE POINTS

Outline points accompany the text of the Scriptures throughout each book, showing you where you are in your reading and what the major points of that section are.

CROSS-REFERENCES

A small letter in front of a word or phrase points to a cross-reference. You'll find cross-references listed either at the side or the very bottom of the page. These lead you to verses with similar expressions, facts, and revelation elsewhere in the Bible. Here in verse 1, a small ^a like this, ^aPaul, tells you to look under ^{1a} in the margin to discover more verses related to Paul.

SCRIPTURE VERSES

The text of the Bible is above the horizontal line on the page.

FOOTNOTES

The notes below the horizontal line help explain the deeper meaning of the truths in the Scriptures. A small number in front of a word or phrase indicates it has an accompanying footnote. Here in verse 1, a small ¹ like this, ¹Paul, indicates a note. To read the note, look below the horizontal line on the page and find the corresponding verse number and its small number.

In this sample Bible study, we'll show you how to use the study tools in the Recovery Version to get into God's Word.

First, when we come to the Bible it's good to open up our hearts to the Lord by praying. You can pray a simple prayer like this: *"Lord, I turn my heart to You. Lord, open Your Word to me."*

Now, turn to page 377 and let's read John 3:16.

16 For God so ^aloved the ¹world that He ^bgave His ^conly begotten Son, that everyone who ^{2d}believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

You'll notice that the verse says "believes into Him." What's the difference between believing in and believing into?

You can see a small ² in front of "believes into," indicating a note gives further explanation. Find the small ² below the horizontal line (you may have to turn to the next page) and read it to understand what it means to believe into Christ.

16² Believing into the Lord is not the same as believing Him (6:30). To believe Him is to believe that He is true and real, but to believe into Him is to receive Him and be united with Him as one. The former is to acknowledge a fact objectively; the latter is to receive a life subjectively.

Notice also a small ^d in front of "believes." This indicates a cross-reference to a verse with similar expressions, facts, or revelation. Find 16^d in the side margin and you'll see cross-references to John 3:36 and John 6:40.

36 He who ^abelieves into the Son has eternal life; but he who disobeys the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides upon him.

40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes into Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day.

By using the notes and cross-references in your Recovery Version to study these verses, you'll begin to see a few things. To believe in Christ means you believe Jesus is true and real, but to believe into Him means you receive Him and are united with Him. The result of believing into Christ is that we receive the eternal life of God. What a wonderful thing it is to believe into Christ!

You can conclude your Bible study by thanking the Lord for what you saw in His Word.

We hope you enjoy your New Testament Recovery Version with all its helpful study tools. If you'd like to learn more about the Recovery Version or studying the Bible, visit us online at bfa.org.



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