

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

427A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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BOOK OF GALATIANS – LESSON 9

Chapter Four, Continued

- Paul's Illness (V14)** *"And my _____ which was in my _____ ye despised _____, nor rejected..."* The GK word for *"temptation"* is *peirazō* which is best understood here as *examine, tempt, or try* (as in trial). In short, Paul had been very sick and was sorely tried by his illness. The Galatians had not shunned him or found his sickness to be repulsive. *"...but received me as an _____ of _____, even as _____ Jesus."* At _____ Paul (Acts 14:8-13) healed a _____ who had never _____ and the people proclaimed that he and Barnabas were _____.
- The Galatians' Former Affection (V15)** *"Where is then the _____ ye _____ of?"* Paul is saying that you had great affection for me when you first met me. Where is that affection now? *"...for I bear you _____, that, if it had been _____, ye would have _____ your own _____, and have _____ them _____ me."* This reading causes many to assume that Paul had weak, red, or watery eyes. This is possible, of course, but we don't know the specific nature of any chronic health problems he may have suffered. What we do know is that these Galatians thought the world of Paul and now he scolds them for leaving the faith he had been responsible for planting in their hearts. It is futile, at best, to speculate about unrevealed things.
- Does The Truth Alienate You? (V16)** *"Am I therefore become your _____, because I _____ you the _____?"* Paul's question is apropos. Is it because I condemn the false doctrine that has caused you to lose your way that you no longer feel affection for me?
- The False Teachers (V17)** *"They zealously _____ you, but _____ well; yea, they would _____ you, that ye might _____ them."* The Judaizing teachers were exploiting these Christians and had gained significant control over them. They wanted the full endearment of the Galatians and wished to wrest away all of the love they had felt, or now felt, for Paul.
- Heartfelt Concern (V18)** *"But it is good to be zealously affected always _____ a _____ thing, and _____ only _____ I am _____ with you."* Paul wants only what is "good" for them. He is not in any way jealous over the attention others give but deeply resents efforts by the Judaizers to shut him out and, in so doing, to prejudice them against the pure gospel of Christ.
- Anxiety All Over Again (V19)** *"My little _____, of whom I _____ in birth _____ until Christ be _____ in you..."* Paul used the pain of natural childbirth to describe his initial trials and suffering in preaching Christ to them, effecting the founding of the Galatian churches.
- More (V19)** Barnabas was with Paul and effectively shared in evangelizing the Galatians. That said, it seems apparent that Paul assumed the dominant role of the two when John Mark (Acts 13:13) *"departing from them _____ to _____."* We should not focus on a "reduced" role for Barnabas, rather on the vigorous evangelism that will so define Paul's life henceforth.