From Paul, an apostle, sent not by a human source, neither by means of human agency, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead; and all the brothers who are with me. To the Churches of Galatia:

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, in order to deliver us from this evil world, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever, Amen.

I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting him who called you by grace, and are turning to a different gospel, which is really not another gospel at all, but a perversion of the gospel of Christ, by those who want to deceive you. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a different gospel than the one which we first preached to you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so I say again, if any one preaches a gospel to you different than what you have already received, let him be accursed. For am I looking for human approval or for God’s? Am I hoping to please people? If I was still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

For I want you to know brothers, that the gospel which I preached was not man-made. For I did not get it from any human source, and I was not taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard how I used to live in Judaism, how I violently persecuted God’s church, and tried to destroy it. I was advanced in Judaism beyond those of my same age, because I was so zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when He, who set me apart before I was born and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his son to me, so that I could preach about him to the Gentiles, I did not consult with anyone else, or go to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before me, but instead I went away to Arabia, and then returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and I stayed with him for fifteen days. But I did not see any of the other apostles except James, the brother of Jesus. What I am writing to you before God, I am not lying. Afterwards, I went to the regions of Syria and Cilicia,
22 and was still unknown personally by the churches of Judea, which were in Christ,
23 but they received word saying "The one who used to persecute us is now preaching the same faith he once tried to destroy."
24 And they praised God because of me.
Then, after fourteen years, I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. I went up in response to a revelation and placed before them the gospel which I proclaim among the Gentiles. But I met privately with those who were recognized leaders, lest by any means I should be running, or had run, in vain. But not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was forced to be circumcised. This problem arose because some false brothers secretly infiltrated us, to spy on our freedom which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage. But we did not surrender to them even for an instant, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. But from those who were reputed to be influential, whoever they were does not matter to me as God shows no favoritism. Those influential ones added nothing to me. On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcision, just as Peter was to the circumcision, for he who worked in Peter making him an apostle to the circumcision also worked in me to the Gentiles. When James, Cephas and John, who were accepted to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. They asked only that we should remember the poor, which was exactly what I had wanted to do anyway.

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he should have been corrected. For before certain men came from James, he ate with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he drew back and separated himself, fearing those who belonged to the circumcision. The rest of the Jews joined in his hypocrisy as well, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that they did not walk in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles, and not as a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews? We who are Jews by birth, and not Gentile sinners, know that a man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. We believe on Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified. But if, while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves also were found to be sinners, is Christ causing us to sin? Absolutely not!
For if I rebuild those things which I once destroyed, I prove that I myself am a violator.
For through the law I died to the law, that I might live to God.
I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ living in me. So the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith, the faith which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
I do not nullify the grace of God, because if righteousness could come by means of the law, then Christ died for nothing!
1 You foolish Galatians! Who bewitched you? Was it not before your eyes that Jesus Christ was openly crucified?
2 There is only one thing I want to ask you: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by believing what you heard?
3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now made perfect in the flesh?
4 Have you suffered all these things for nothing? --if it really was for nothing.
5 Does He, who gives you the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by your doing works of the law or by believing what you heard?
6 Just as Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness,
7 know that those who believe are the sons of Abraham.
8 The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, when it proclaimed the gospel to Abraham saying “All nations will be blessed in you.”
9 So those who believe are blessed along with Abraham, who believed.
10 For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not keep doing everything written in the book of the law.”
11 Now obviously no one is justified before God by the law, because “The one who is righteous will live by faith.”
12 But the law is not based on faith; but the one who does works will live by them.
13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, by becoming a curse for us; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree,”
14 so that the blessing of Abraham by Christ Jesus might come to the Gentiles and so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit by faith.

15 Brothers, here is a human example: Once a contract is ratified, no one can nullify it or add to it.
16 Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say “And to your descendents,” as of many; but as of one, “and to your descendent,” who is Christ.
17 This is my point: The law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not cancel a covenant ratified beforehand by God, so as to nullify the promise.
18 For if the inheritance depends on the law, it is no more just a promise, but God has granted it to Abraham by a promise.
19 Why then was the law given? It was added because of transgressions, until the descendent should come to whom the promise had been made. It was implemented through angels by the hand of a mediator.
20 Now a mediator is not for only one party; but God is one.
21 Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given which could give life, then righteousness would have been by the law.
22 But the Scriptures imprisoned everything under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.
23 But before faith came, we were locked up under the law, imprisoned until faith could be revealed.
24 So that the law became our tutor until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.
25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

26 For you are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus.
27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
28 There is no longer Jew or Greek, bond or free, male or female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.
29 If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise.
But I say that the heir as long as he is a child is no different than if he were a slave, though he is still owner of everything. He lives under guardians and managers until the time set by his father. We also, when children, were in slavery under the elementary principles of the world. But when the right time came, God sent his son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those enslaved under the law, so that we might be adopted as his children. Because we are sons, God sent out the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the spirit that calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then God has made you an heir.

Previously, when you did not know God, you were slaves to things that are not gods. But now that you have come to know God, or rather are known by God, how can you ever turn back to weak and worthless elementary principles of the world? Do you want to be slaves again? You observe days, months, seasons, and years. I am afraid for you, that maybe my efforts for you have been for nothing. I beg you, brothers, be like me, because I also am becoming like you. You did me no wrong. As you know it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you, and even though my illness was a trial for you, you did not despise or reject me. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, or even Jesus himself. What happened to your joy now? For I witnessed that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. Have I become your enemy by telling you the truth? They eagerly want your favor, but for no good. They want to shut you off from us, so you can be zealous for them. But it is good if someone is eager to do good things for you, let them do it all the time, and not just when I am with you. My dear children, I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you. I wish I could be there with you now, and could change the tone of my voice; because I am perplexed about you.

Tell me, you who want to be under the law, do you know what the law actually says?
It is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and one by the free woman.

The son of the slave woman was born by the flesh, but the son of the free woman was born by the promise.

These things are an allegory; for these women represent the two covenants; one from Mount Sinai, bearing children into slavery, which is Hagar.

Now Hagar, represents Mount Sinai in Arabia, corresponding to the current Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children.

But the Jerusalem that is above is free and she is our mother.

For it is written, “Rejoice, O childless woman, cry out you who have had no birth-pains; because the children of the desolate mother are more numerous than those of the woman with a husband.”

Now brothers, you are like Isaac, children of promise.

Just as back then, the one who was born of the flesh persecuted the one who was born of the Spirit, and that is how it is now also.

What then does the Scripture say? “Throw out the servant and her son, because the son of your servant will not inherit the share with the son of the free woman.”

Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman but of the free woman.
For freedom Christ has set us free, so stand firm, and do not be again tied into a yoke of slavery.

Listen, I Paul tell you, that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you.

Yes, I say it again, to every man that let’s himself be circumcised, he is obligated to keep the whole law.

You who are trying to be justified by the law are cut off from Christ, you have fallen away from grace.

For by faith, through the Spirit, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; but only faith working through love.

You were running so well, who hindered you from obeying the truth?

This false teaching does not come from him who called you.

A little yeast leavens the whole batch.

I have confidence in the Lord that you will be not be persuaded otherwise. But the one who troubles you will pay the penalty, whoever he is.

But I, brothers, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross would have been removed.

I wish that those troublemakers would go ahead and castrate themselves.

For you, brothers, were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom for an opportunity to indulge the flesh, but through love serve one another.

For the whole law is summed up in a single command: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

But if you bite and devour one another, beware that you are not consumed by one another.

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the evil desires of the flesh.

For the desires of the flesh are opposed to the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another; that you cannot do the things that you want to.

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarrels, jealousies, fits of anger, rivalries, divisions, dissensions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and such things; of which I forewarn you, even as I warned you before, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk guided by the Spirit.
26 Let us not become conceited, provoke one another, or become jealous of one another.
1 Brothers, if someone is overcome by some sin, you who are spiritual, restore him in a spirit of gentleness, guarding yourself that you are not also tempted.
2 Carry one another's burdens, and in this way fulfill the law of Christ.
3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.
4 Let each person examine his own work. Then he can take pride in himself alone, without comparing himself to anyone else.
5 For each must bear his own burden.
6 But let the one who is taught in the word share all good things with the one who teaches.
7 Be not deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever a person sows, that will he also reap.
8 For he who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption; but he who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.
9 Let us not be weary in well-doing, for in due time we will reap if we do not give up.
10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good toward all, and especially toward those who are of the family of faith.

11 See what large letters I write to you with my own hand.
12 Those who want to impress in the flesh, are trying to compel you to be circumcised; so that they may avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ.
13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law; but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh.
14 But may I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
15 For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but the new creation is all that matters.
16 All who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.
17 From now on, let no one make trouble for me, for I bear branded on my body the marks of Jesus.
18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.