

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## Prepared to Profit

(Jerry Fite)

**T**oday we begin a week of hearing sermons preached from the Book of Galatians. In each nightly gathering, we will focus on some great themes in Paul's letter. Other than assembling and listening what can we do to profit from this week's special series of lessons?

We can follow Jesus' instructions and *“take heed how you hear”* (Luke 18:18). We want to hear with an open heart, not a closed mind with preconceived ideas causing us to miss the revealed truth (Matthew 13:15-16). Determined not let our minds wander, we can concentrate on each point in light of the Scriptures, and manifest the noble character of the Bereans (Acts 17:11). Being constantly in the present, you may be surprised how short the sermons will seem.

Prepare yourself by asking some pertinent questions regarding each perspective theme. Look at the topic for each service and come with questions relating to that theme that should be answered in the sermon of the evening.

**PAUL'S APOSTLESHIP**...Ask yourself, “Why was it important for Paul to begin his letter by emphasizing his apostleship?” “What is unique about his description of his apostleship in Galatians when compared with his other letters?” “Is there a distinction between not being “of men” and “by men”?”

**DELIVERANCE FROM THIS PRESENT EVIL WORLD**...Ask yourself, Is there a connection between deliverance from this present world and sin? If so, what is it? Why is this present world “evil”? Living in this world, in what sense are we delivered from the present evil world? How are we delivered?

**LIFE BEGINS BY DYING**...Ask yourself, why did Paul indicate his dying as being crucified? To what did Paul die before he could live? What does Paul emphasize in his life of faith in Christ?

**THE ONE AND ONLY GOSPEL**...Ask yourself, what is the “different gospel” being preached by some? What is the one true gospel? What distinct

emphasis is accomplished by repeating the same warning?

**NO COMPROMISING THE TRUTH**...Ask yourself, how was the gospel being compromised? What was Paul's attitude toward the truth of the gospel?

**THE GOSPEL AND GOD'S PROMISE**...Ask yourself, what is the relationship between to two? Why does Paul contrast the promise with the Law of Moses? How did Jesus secure God's promise to Abraham?

**FLESH VS. SPIRIT**... Ask yourself...why is there a conflict? Is the Spirit the Holy Spirit or my spirit? Does it matter? What should I learn from knowing the works of the flesh? What should I learn from knowing the fruit of the Spirit?

**SERVANTS ONE OF ANOTHER**...Ask yourself, what does being a servant mean? How can I be free and yet be a servant? How are we to manifest such servant hood? Coming with questions to be answered, we will be active listeners, profiting from each service.