



GALATIANS

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FIGHTING for  
the GOSPEL

A Verse-by-Verse Study

## Galatians 3: 28 (NIV)

*There is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither slave nor free, nor is there  
male and female, for you are all one  
in Christ Jesus.*

## Galatians 3: 29 (NIV)

*If you belong to Christ, then you  
are Abraham's seed, and  
heirs according to the promise.*





How do you think that made  
the Jews feel?



How do you think that made  
the Gentiles feel?

## Galatians 4: 1 (NIV)

*What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate.*





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Turn to:  
1 Corinthians 13: 11

## 1 Corinthians 13: 11 (NIV)

*When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.*



## Galatians 4: 2 (NIV)

*The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father.*

## Galatians 4: 3 (NIV)

*So also, when we were underage,  
we were in slavery under the  
elemental spiritual forces of the  
world.*



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Turn to:  
Colossians 2: 8

## Colossians 2: 8 (NIV)

*See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, **which depends on human tradition** and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.*



Returning to Judaism, human tradition and the Law is not a step forward, it is reverting back into immaturity!

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## Galatians 4: 4 (NIV)

*But when the set time had fully  
come, God sent his Son, born of a  
woman,*



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Turn to:  
Romans 8: 1-8

## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.*



## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh,*



# How was the law weakened by the flesh?

## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires;*







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Turn to:  
Galatians 5: 17-21

## Galatians 5: 17-21 (NIV)

*For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.*

## Galatians 5: 17-21 (NIV)

*But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,*

## Galatians 5: 17-21 (NIV)

*idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife,  
jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries,  
dissensions, divisions, envy,  
drunkenness, orgies, and things like  
these.*

## Galatians 5: 17-21 (NIV)

*I warn you, as I warned you before,  
that those who do such things will  
not inherit the kingdom of God.*



## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.*

## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.*

## Romans 8: 1-8 (NIV)

*Those who are in the realm of the  
flesh cannot please God.*



What does it mean to be in  
the realm of the flesh?

## Galatians 4: 4 (NIV)

*But when the set time had fully  
come, God sent his Son, born of a  
woman,*

## Galatians 4: 5 (NIV)


*to redeem those under the law, that  
we might receive adoption to  
sonship.*




# Adoption

Greek: huiothesia

- The putting of one as a son into a family by the father.
- To enter in with full privilege.
- To start out with full seniority.



If you were born into the family,  
you were not chosen, however if  
you were adopted, you were  
selected to be in the family!



The moment we were baptized  
into Christ, we were placed in a  
new home. We no longer  
belonged to the family of this  
world, we became sons of God  
through Christ Jesus!

## Galatians 4: 6 (NIV)

*Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.”*



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Turn to:  
John 14: 16-18

## John 14: 16-18 (NIV)

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him.*



## John 14: 16-18 (NIV)

*But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*

## Galatians 4: 6 (NIV)

*Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.”*

# Father

Abba-(aramaic)  
Papa-(italian)  
Daddy-(english)

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Turn to:  
Romans 8: 15-16

## Romans 8: 15-16 (NIV)

*The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your **adoption to sonship.***

## Romans 8: 15-16 (NIV)

*And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.*





# What do the children receive?

## Galatians 4: 7 (NIV)

*So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.*

## Galatians 4: 8 (NIV)

**Formerly**, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.

## Galatians 4: 9 (NIV)

**But now** *that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?*

## But Now

This statement  
in the original Greek language means  
there has been  
a New Beginning

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## Galatians 4: 9 (NIV)

**But now** *that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?*



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Turn to:  
2 Corinthians 5: 17



## 2 Corinthians 5: 17 (NIV)

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*

## Galatians 4: 9 (NIV)

*But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?*



Is it better to know God or to  
be known by God?



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Turn to:  
John 10

## John 10: 1-4 (NIV)

*“Very truly I tell you Pharisees,  
anyone who does not enter the  
sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in  
by some other way, is a thief and a  
robber.*

## John 10: 14 (NIV)

*The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.*



## John 10: 1-4 (NIV)

*When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.*



## John 10: 14 (NIV)

*“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me”*

## John 10: 27-30 (NIV)

*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.*

## John 10: 27-30 (NIV)

*My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.”*



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Turn to:  
Revelation 2: 17

## Revelation 2: 17a (NIV)

*Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna.*







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Turn to:  
Exodus 16: 33-34



## Exodus 16: 33-34 (NIV)

*So Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar and put an omer of manna in it. Then place it before the Lord to be kept for the generations to come.”*

## Exodus 16: 33-34 (NIV)

*As the Lord commanded Moses,  
Aaron put the manna with the tablets  
of the covenant law, so that it might  
be preserved.*



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Turn to:  
Hebrews 9: 1-4

## Hebrews 9: 1-4 (NIV)

*Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place.*

## Hebrews 9: 1-4 (NIV)

*Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant.*

## Hebrews 9: 1-4 (NIV)

*This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.*





Who had access to the Ark of the Covenant?



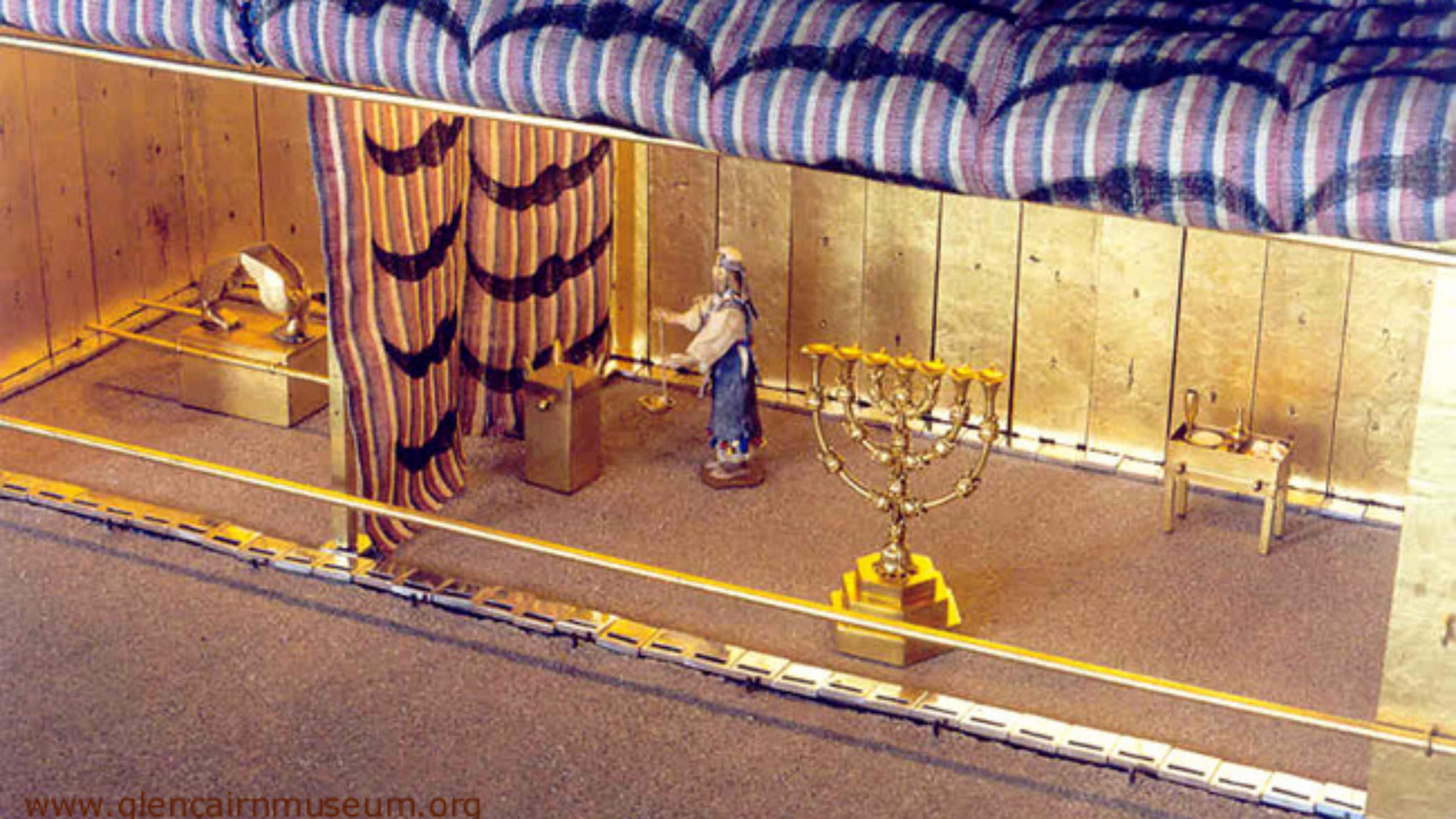
The Holy of Holies,  
Hebrew Qodesh Ha-qadashim, also  
called Devir, was the innermost and  
most sacred area of the ancient  
Temple of Jerusalem.

The Holy of Holies was accessible only to the Israelite high priest, and only once a year, on Yom Kippur , the Day of Atonement. The high priest was permitted to enter for the purpose of burning incense and sprinkling sacrificial animal blood.

Through this act, which took place during the most solemn of the religious year, God allowed the high priest to atone for his own sins and those of the priesthood.

The Holy of Holies was located at the west end of the Temple, and in Solomon's Temple it enshrined the Ark of the Covenant. Keep in mind nobody was allowed to touch or look into the Ark of the Covenant.







## Revelation 2: 17a (NIV)

*Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna.*

## Revelation 2: 17b (NIV)

*I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.*



When an athlete in John's day won in the games they were often given as part of his prize a white stone with their name engraved on it which was an admissions pass to the winner's celebration after the race.

## Revelation 2: 17b (NIV)

*I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.*

This signifies our new life in which we will have a new name and we will no longer be associated with our current name given to us in the flesh. I believe that Jesus will give all Christians a new name known only to God and the person he is giving the name to.

This demonstrates the personal relationship we will have with God in Heaven! He will give us a name just like a father would his child!

## Galatians 4: 9 (NIV)

*But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?*

## Galatians 4: 10-11 (NIV)

*You are observing special days and months and seasons and years!  
I fear for you, that somehow I have wasted my efforts on you.*



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Turn to:  
Hebrews 9: 8-11



## Hebrews 9: 8-11 (NLT)

*By these regulations the Holy Spirit revealed that the entrance to the Most Holy Place was not freely open as long as the Tabernacle and the system it represented were still in use.*

## Hebrews 9: 8-11 (NLT)

*This is an illustration pointing to the present time. For the gifts and sacrifices that the priests offer are not able to cleanse the consciences of the people who bring them.*

## Hebrews 9: 8-11 (NLT)

*For that old system deals only with food and drink and various cleansing ceremonies—physical regulations that were in effect only until a better system could be established.*

## Hebrews 9: 8-11 (NLT)

*So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world.*

The Old Testament  
requirements – the keeping  
of the Sabbath day, the  
New Moons, the Religious  
Celebrations, Annual  
Feasts, the Remembrances  
– are all fulfilled in Jesus!



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Turn to:  
Colossians 2: 16-17



## Colossians 2: 16-17 (NLT)

*So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths.*

## Colossians 2: 16-17 (NLT)

*For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality.*



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Turn to:  
Romans 5: 4

## Romans 15: 4 (NIV)

*For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.*



What is Paul concerned about that was going on in these Churches?



# William Barclay

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“Think man-Jesus  
never said, ‘I have  
come that they may  
have religion, and  
that they may have  
more of it.’”







What did Jesus say his purpose was?



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Turn to:  
John 10: 10

## John 10: 10 (NIV)

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*



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Turn to:  
Hebrews 10: 10-12

## Hebrews 10: 10-12 (NIV)

*And by that will, we have been made  
holy through the sacrifice of the  
body of Jesus Christ once for all.*





Why is Jesus, a single sacrifice  
for sins so hard to understand?

## Hebrews 10: 10-12 (NIV)

*Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.*



## Hebrews 10: 10-12 (NIV)

*But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,*

## Galatians 4: 10-11 (NIV)

*You are observing special days and months and seasons and years!  
I fear for you, that somehow I have wasted my efforts on you.*