



Breaking Out

Sunday 1st May 2022

Galatians 1 – The Gospel is Unique

On live stream and in the building

Greeting

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

TIME TO BREAK OUT IN CONFESSION

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love: fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith: fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust: fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

TIME TO BREAK OUT IN SONG

*Gemma Sheridan, Jonathan Phillips,
(Words below)*

TIME TO BREAK OUT IN SCRIPTURE

Galatians 1

1 Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— **2** and all the brothers and sisters with me,

To the churches in Galatia:

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, **4** who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, **5** to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

No Other Gospel

6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— **7** which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. **8** But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! **9** As we have already said, so now I say again: If

anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!

10 Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Paul Called by God

11 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. **12** I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

13 For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. **14** I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. **15** But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased **16** to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. **17** I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus.

18 Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. **19** I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother. **20** I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie.

21 Then I went to Syria and Cilicia. **22** I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. **23** They only heard the report: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." **24** And they praised God because of me.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Teaching slot: Being Easter People

Galatians 1: The gospel is unique

J Phillips

TIME TO DISCUSS

Questions:

- 1) How does Galatians teach us to be Easter People? How is the gospel the A-Z of the Christian life?
- 2) Which passage from Galatians Chapter 1 speaks to you most powerfully this week?
- 3) Skip to the end: knowing that you are saved by the unique gospel of grace: are there any bad habits that you can prune and any good habits that you can pick up over the next 2 months. Why not write to yourself now and start to check this each week..

Transformation where you are – David Noble

I leave the Council at the end of this week after 25 years in the legal department (Environment team). Before that I was in the Civil Service in Nottingham for 17 years.

To be honest I have mixed feelings. I can look back on my working time with some satisfaction but there have been frustrations, too.

I believe that God has a plan for this next phase of my life but He hasn't yet revealed what it is, or perhaps I haven't been listening.

I do remind myself and am thankful that God has always provided for us as a family, notably when He brought us to Chester, and we have been blessed by Him throughout our time here.

In the short term I will take time to recalibrate, and spend more time with *Wordle* along with other puzzles.

Please pray:

For the small team that I will leave behind, that they will be able to pick up the tasks that I have left undone.

For the highways and planning departments of the Council, that they will be able to deliver good services to the public in the face of many challenges.

For the Councillors, particularly those who have executive responsibilities, that their decisions will be made with wisdom and integrity.

For me, that the Lord will refresh and sustain me. Pray that I will hear His voice and have the grace to do His will, whatever that may be.

For my family, that after years of me spending too long at work that they will adjust to being around a bit more. In particular, please pray for Denise, who is wonderful but who will need even greater patience with me during this next stage of our life together.

Collect for the Third Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and
wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Blessing & Dismissal

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

Song Words

Great is He

Nick Herbert (Soul Survivor)

Verse 1

Great is He like none before
Son of God the living word
Oh praise oh sing praise

Verse 2

He walked the waves of Galilee
Raised the dead
And calmed the sea
Give thanks to His name

Chorus

Praise the King of majesty
Praise the Lamb
Who died for me
Praise the Christ our victory
We'll sing forever great is He
Jesus our Saviour great is He

Verse 3

Then He died on Calvary
The bravest one there'll ever be
His love made a way

Verse 4

No heart could carry what He held
Our sin upon His shoulders fell
Oh grace oh such grace

Chorus

Verse 5

See He reigns in glory now
Every worldly kingdom bow
To Him all to Him

Verse 6

He rules above all time and space
Yet in His heart we have a place
Lift high Heaven's King

Chorus

Bridge 1

Hallelujah there is no one
Greater than You
Jesus King Jesus

Chorus

Holy Ground Dave Bilborough

This is the place
Where dreams are found,
Where vision comes,
Called holy ground.
Holy ground,
I'm standing on holy ground,
For the Lord my God
Is here with me.
Your fire burns
But never dies;
I realise
This is holy ground.
The Great I AM,
Revealed to man;
Take off your shoes,
This is holy ground.

Living Hope Phil hickham

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke your name into the night
Then through the darkness
Your loving kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
The king of kings calls me His own
Beautiful saviour, I'm yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the roaring lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the roaring lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus, yours is the victory, whoa!

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Jesus Christ, my living hope
Oh God, you are my living hope