

## Christ – God’s New Covenant with Mankind

Paul an apostle – **not from men nor through man**, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead – and all the brothers with me, To the churches of Galatia:

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and **our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father; to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. Galatians 1:1-5

- a) Paul defines himself and his credentials.
- b) The original target recipients were several small churches of Asia.
- c) Best wishes.
- d) Messiah
  - 1) Who gave himself up
  - 2) Our Liberator
  - 3) The present evil age
  - 4) The acts on earth are in the mind (will) of God



When the churches of Galatia first read our letter – they had no idea what they held in their hands was the beginning of an all-new section of the scriptures of Israel. No New Testament (Covenant) existed – **here it begins:**

The first two chapters are Paul’s testimony of the work of God to and in him. It is autobiographical. Chapters 5 and 6 are ethical and doctrinal – Paul’s insight into God’s mystery.

Chapter 6:11-18 are **Paul’s personal address** – NO SCRIBE! Let’s begin with Paul’s stress – then read the full letter:

*See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. <sup>12</sup> It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. <sup>14</sup> But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. <sup>16</sup> **Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God.** <sup>17</sup> Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. <sup>18</sup> The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen. (Galatians 6:11-18 RSV)*

1. Make your walk conform and come from the New Creation.
2. Order all your joys and values to the cross of Christ.
3. You cannot be made more righteous in your physical works – God has done all in Christ.
4. The Cross affects the world’s view of you and yours of the world.
5. All who are re-created are united to Christ in the cross event and spirit. – Luke 9:23
6. Now let’s turn to Paul’s life: (next session).