

# Message Notes

## The Story Retold

# Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

**Introduction** - *The Power of the Metanarrative!*

**This week's Message:**  
*An Offense to the Gospel - Part I1*  
*(The Story Retold)*  
Galatians 2:15-16

**Jews by Birth**  
Galatians 2:15a

**Not Gentile Sinners**  
Galatians 2:15b

**Justified NOT by Observing the Law**  
Galatians 2:16a

Justified by Faith in Jesus Christ  
Galatians 2:16b

*Justified*

*Not by observing the law ("works of the law")*

**A Tale of THREE Cities: How people try to get right with God**

**1. Observing the Law - The Jews who reject Jesus**

*Creation*  
*Fall*

*Redemption* - Flood Nations Abraham Moses  
Nation/Land Exile

*Restoration*

*Israel is God's Treasured Possession*  
Deuteronomy 26:18a

*What about other Nations?*

*What about Jesus?*  
John 8:29-44

**NOTES: Continued**

**2. Jesus + Observing the Law - The Judiazers in Galatia**

Same as #1 except accepted Jesus as Messiah, BUT you needed to get into the lifeboat with was Israel

**3. The Gospel of Grace - Jesus ONLY to EVERYONE!**

*Creation*

*Fall*

*Redemption* - Flood Nations Abraham [THE BELIEVER!] True Israel Moses Exile Messiah

*Israel as Microcosm*

Romans 3:19-30

Deuteronomy 26:18

*Restoration*

Revelation 21:3,4, 22:2b-3

**The Conclusion of the Matter**

Ephesians 2:11-3:6

**Gospel Application - Three Cities Today:**

1. Moralism
2. Religion
3. Gospel

**Scripture Passage of study today:**

**Galatians 2:15-16**

<sup>15</sup>'We who are Jews by birth and not 'Gentile sinners' <sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

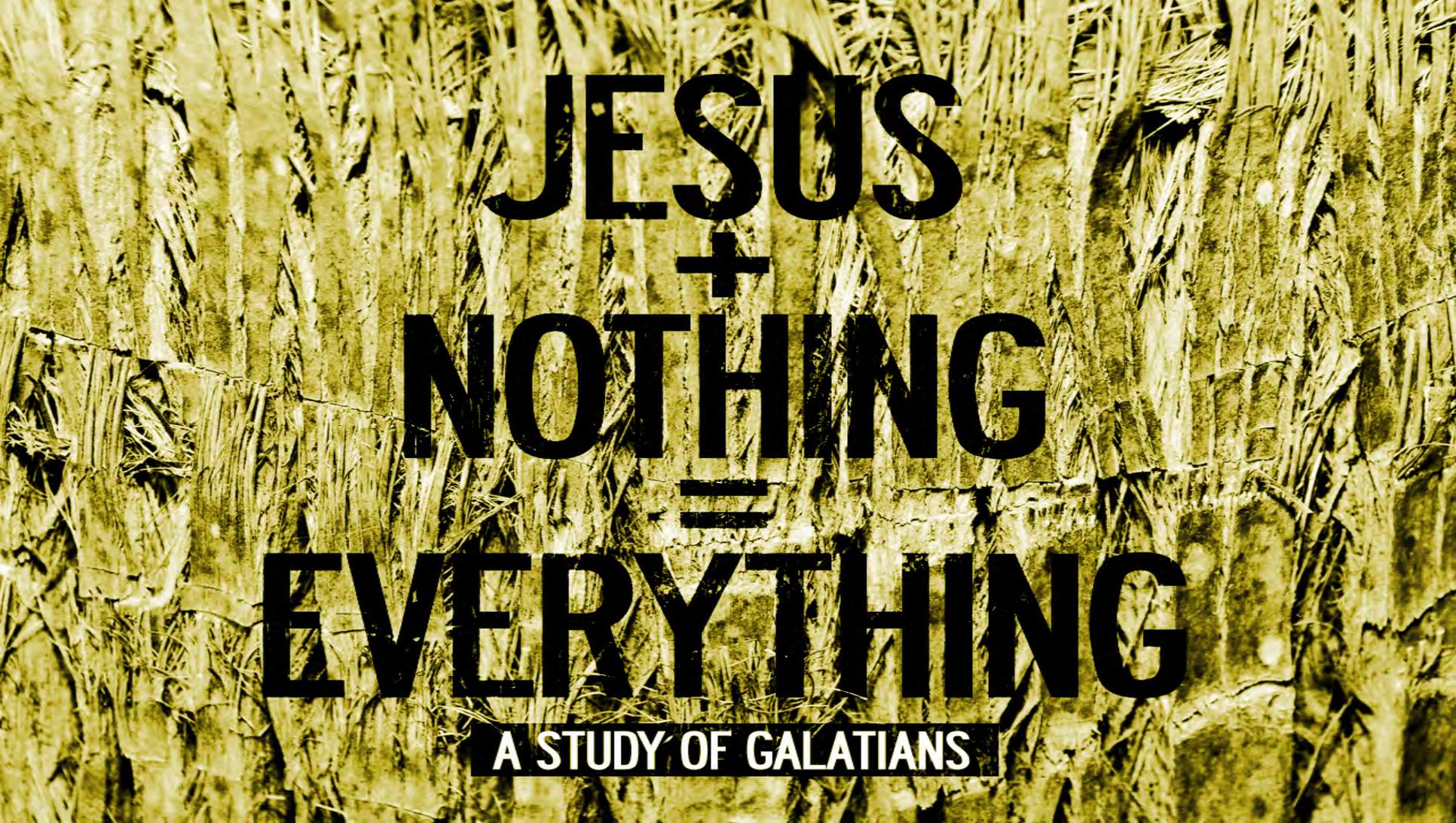




# POSTMODERN

It's Our Word. Don't Use It. Don't Try to Define It.  
Above All, Don't Label Us With It.  
Even If We Apply It to Ourselves.





**JESUS  
+  
NOTHING  
=  
EVERYTHING**

**A STUDY OF GALATIANS**



# THREE CLASSIC CHILDREN'S STORIES

DRAWINGS BY **Edward Gorey**  
TEXT BY **James Donnelly**



LITTLE RED  
RIDING HOOD



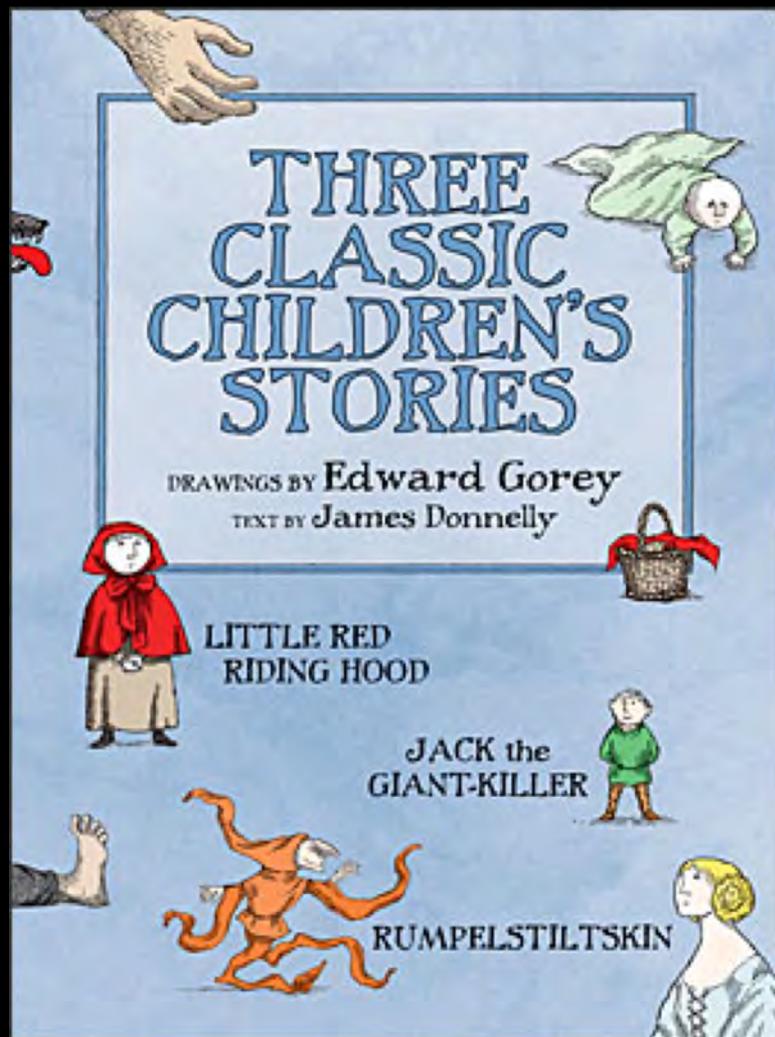
JACK the  
GIANT-KILLER



RUMPELSTILTSKIN

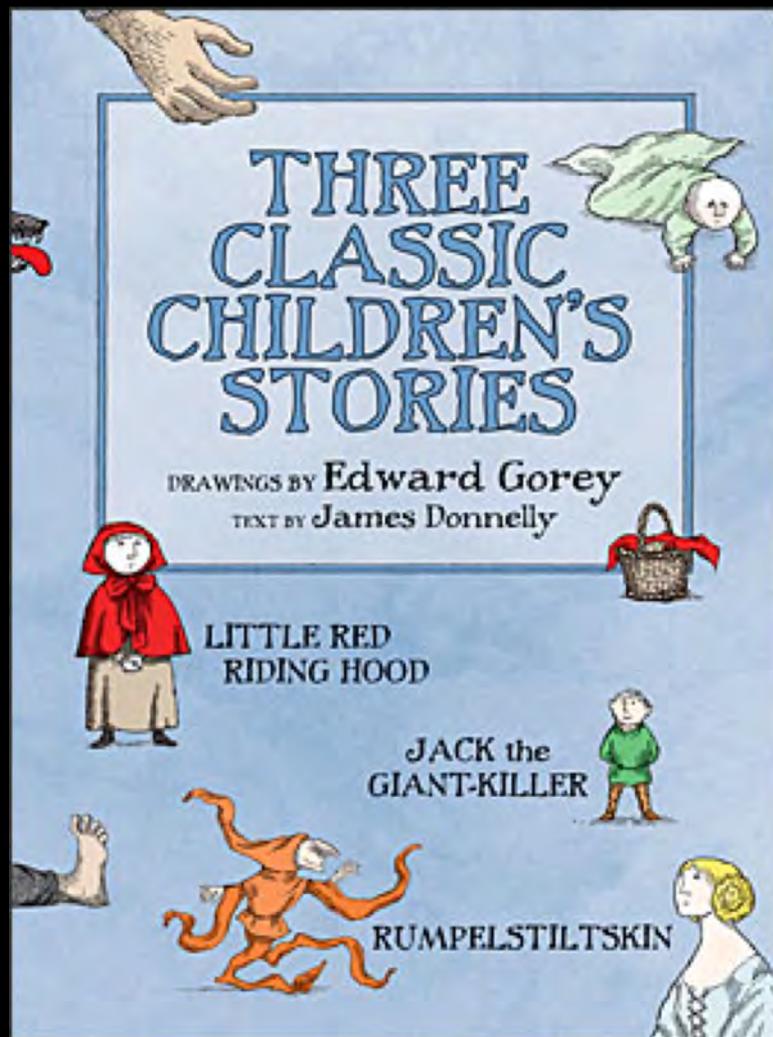


# Paul's Story



# Paul's Story

## The Story of Redemption in Scripture



# Paul's Story

## The Story of Redemption in Scripture

### Their (and our) Story



**The Potentially  
Awkward Meeting  
in Jerusalem**

# The Outcome of the Jerusalem Meeting

## Galatians 2:7-9a

<sup>7</sup>On the contrary, they saw that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as Peter had been to the Jews. <sup>8</sup>For God, who was at work in the ministry of Peter as an apostle to the Jews, was also at work in my ministry as an apostle to the Gentiles.

# The Outcome of the Jerusalem Meeting

## Galatians 2:7-9a

<sup>9</sup>James, Peter and John, those reputed to be pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me.

# Last week's Message:

*An offense to the Gospel (part 1):*

*"Pete's bad table manners"*

**Galatians 2:11-14**

## Galatians 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup>When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. <sup>12</sup>Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group.

## **Galatians 2:11-14**

<sup>13</sup>The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

## Galatians 2:11-14

<sup>14</sup>When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?”

## Galatians 2:14-15

<sup>15</sup>“We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’  
<sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

# Today's Message:

*An offense to the Gospel (part 2):*

*"The Story Retold"*

**Galatians 2:15-16**

# Jews by birth

## Galatians 2:15-16

<sup>15</sup>“We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’  
<sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

# Not Gentile Sinners

## Galatians 2:15-16

<sup>15</sup>“We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’  
<sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

# Justified Not by Observing the Law

## Galatians 2:15-16

<sup>15</sup>“We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’  
<sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

“Martin Luther, whose grasp of the gospel was better than most, once said that The Doctrine of Justification was the article by which the Church stands or falls. “This article,” he said, “is the head and cornerstone of the Church, which alone begets, nourishes, builds, preserves and protects the Church; without it the Church of God cannot subsist one hour.” Luther was right. Although for our understanding of the general shape and direction of the Christian life we have suggested the doctrine of regeneration is important, The Doctrine of Justification is central. Not only is it the article of the standing or falling Church,



but also of the standing or falling Christian. Probably more trouble is caused in the Christian life by an inadequate or mistaken view of this doctrine than any other. When the child of God loses his sense of peace with God, finds his concern for others dried up, or generally finds his sense of the sheer goodness and grace of God diminished, it is from this fountain that he has ceased to drink. Conversely, if we can gain a solid grounding here, we have the foundation for a life of peace and joy.

~ Sinclair Ferguson, *Know Your Christian Life: A Theological Introduction* (Downers Grove, IL; InterVarsity, 1981), 71.



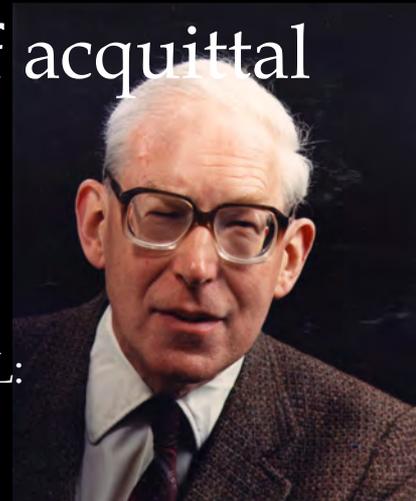
# Justified by Faith in Jesus Christ

## Galatians 2:15-16

<sup>15</sup>“We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’  
<sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

To “justify” in the Bible means to “declare righteous”: to declare, that is, of a man on trial, that he is not liable to any penalty, but is entitled to all the privileges due to those who have kept the law. Justifying is the act of a judge pronouncing the opposite sentence to condemnation — that of acquittal and legal immunity.”

~ James I. Packer, *God's Words: Studies of Key Bible Themes* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1981), 139-140.



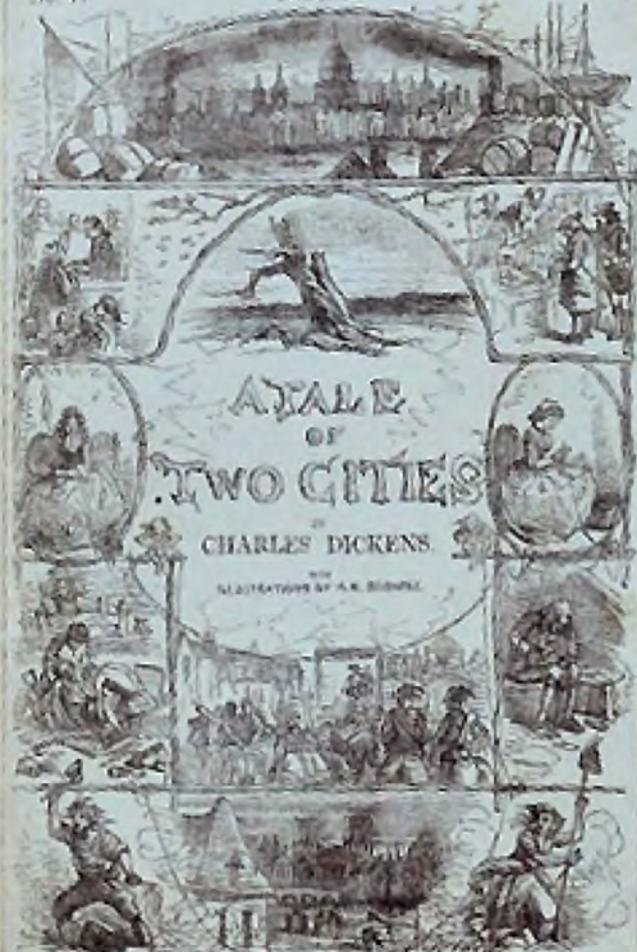
“  
This justification, though individually located at the point of time at which a man believes (Rom. 4:3; 5:1), is an eschatological once-for-all divine act, the final judgment brought into the present. The justifying sentence, once passed, is irrevocable. “The Wrath” (Rom. 5:9) will not touch the justified.



“Those accepted now are secure forever. Inquisition before Christ’s judgment seat (Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10) may deprive them of certain rewards (1 Cor. 3:15) but never of their justified status. Christ will not call into question God’s justifying verdict, only declare, endorse and implement it.

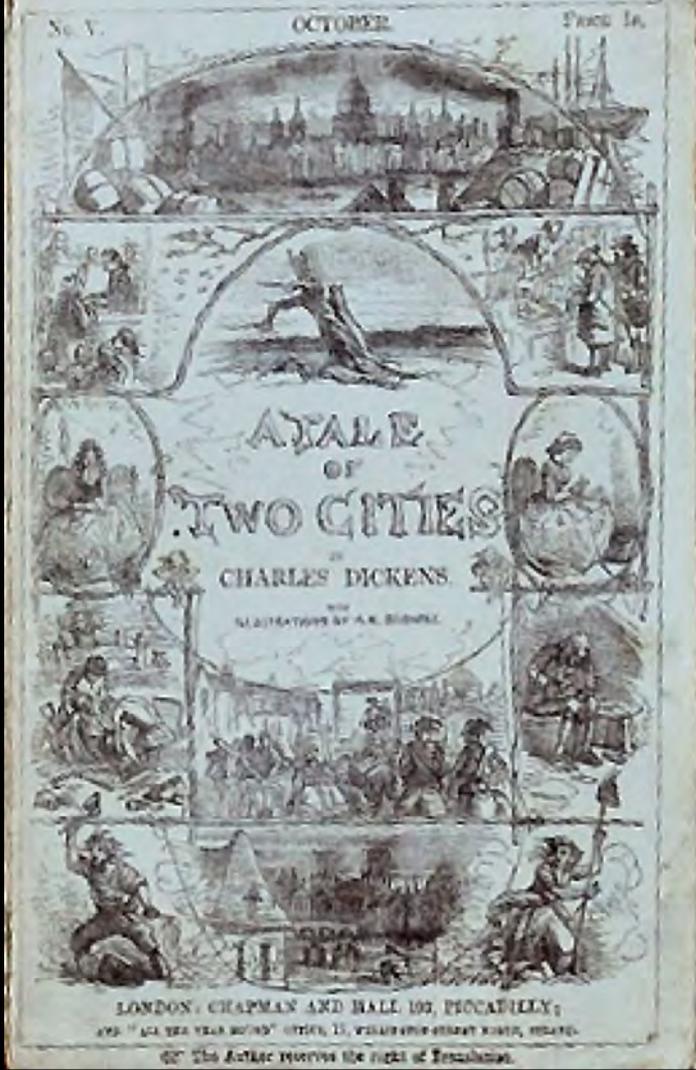
~ James Packer, in Everett F. Harrison, et al., eds., *Baker’s Dictionary of Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1972), 155.





LONDON, CHAPMAN AND HALL 103, PICCADILLY;  
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# Story #1

Observing the Law:  
*The Jews Who  
Completely Rejected Jesus*



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

# The God who Creates

## Genesis 1:1

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created  
the heavens and the earth.



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

# *The Fall - A look @ what went wrong!*



# *The Fall - A look @ what went wrong!*

- *The Curse - to the serpent*

**Genesis 3:14-15**



<sup>14</sup>So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.  
<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

# *The Fall - A look @ what went wrong!*

- *The Curse - to the woman*

**Genesis 3:16**

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”



# *The Fall - A look @ what went wrong!*

- *The Curse - to the man*

**Genesis 3:17-19**

<sup>17</sup>To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.



# *The Fall - A look @ what went wrong!*

- *The Curse - to the man*

**Genesis 3:17-19**



<sup>18</sup>It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

# Flood – Genesis 6

**Flood – Genesis 6**

**Nations – Genesis 10**

**Flood – Genesis 6**

**Nations – Genesis 10**

**Abraham – Genesis 12, 15, 17**

**Flood – Genesis 6**

**Nations – Genesis 10**

**Abraham – Genesis 12, 15, 17**

**Moses – Exodus, Lev., Deut.**

**Flood – Genesis 6**

**Nations – Genesis 10**

**Abraham – Genesis 12, 15, 17**

**Moses – Exodus, Lev., Deut.**

**Nation/Land – Joshua**

**Flood – Genesis 6**

**Nations – Genesis 10**

**Abraham – Genesis 12, 15, 17**

**Moses – Exodus, Lev., Deut.**

**Nation/Land – Joshua**

**Exile – prophets (Isaiah,  
Jeremiah, and Exekiel)**



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

**Israel is God's Treasured Nation**

# Israel is God's Treasured Nation

## Deuteronomy 26:18a

<sup>18</sup>And the LORD has declared this day that you are his people, his treasured possession as he promised...

**What about other nations?**



**What about Jesus?**

# What about Jesus?

John 8:29-44

<sup>39</sup>“Abraham is our father,” they answered.

“If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “then you would do the things Abraham did. <sup>40</sup>As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things.

<sup>41</sup>You are doing the things your own father does.”

# What about Jesus?

**John 8:29-44**

“We are not illegitimate children,” they protested. “The only Father we have is God himself.”

# What about Jesus?

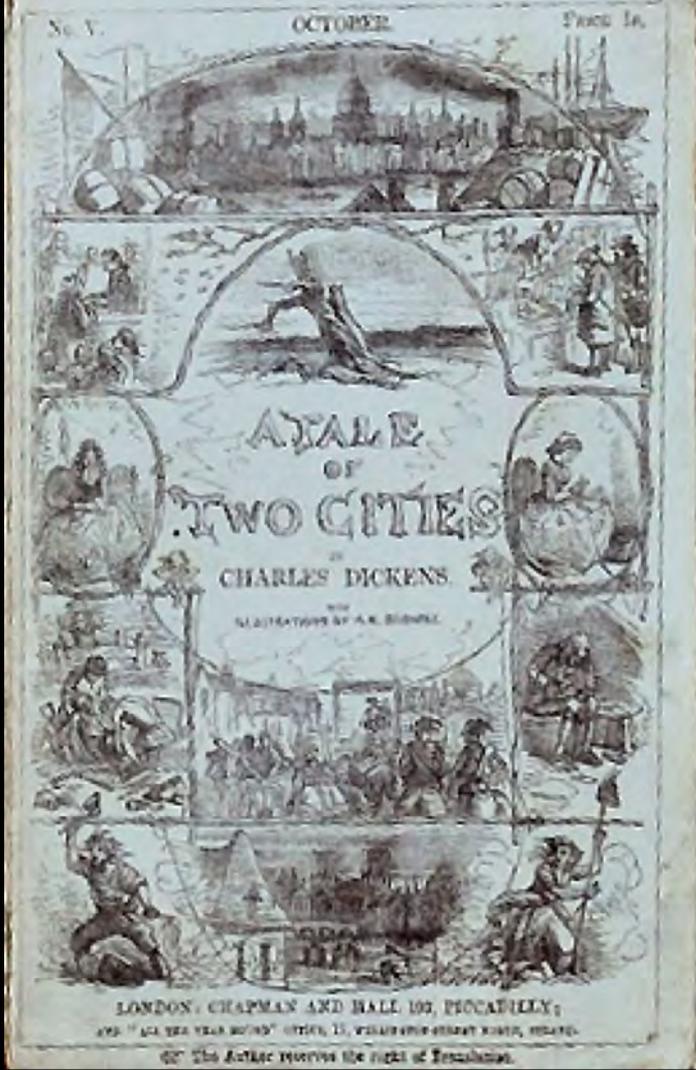
## John 8:29-44

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. <sup>43</sup>Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say.

# What about Jesus?

**John 8:29-44**

<sup>44</sup>You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

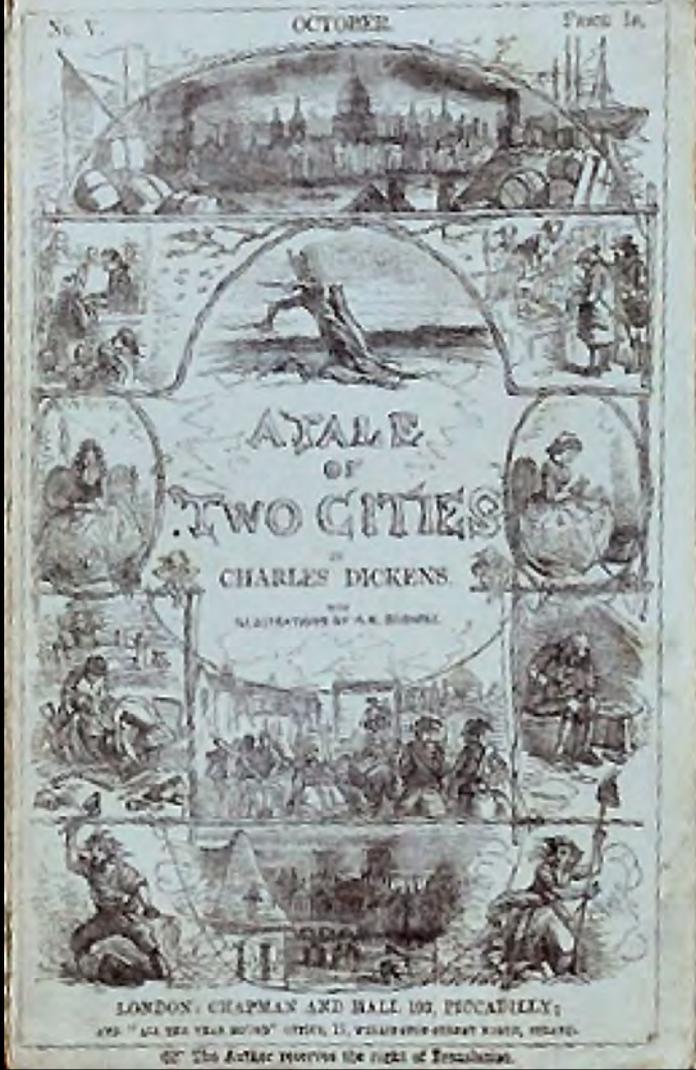


# Story #2

Jesus + Observing  
the Law:

*The Judiazers in Galatia*





# Story #3

The Gospel of Grace  
*Jesus ONLY to*  
**EVERYONE!!**



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

# Flood - Genesis 6

Flood - Genesis 6

Nations - Genesis 10

**Flood - Genesis 6**

**Nations - Genesis 10**

**Abraham [The Believer!] -**

**Genesis 15:6 - Rom. 4, Gal. 3, 4**

Flood – Genesis 6

Nations – Genesis 10

Abraham [The Believer!] –

Genesis 15:6 – Rom. 4, Gal. 3, 4

True Israel – Rom. 9, Heb. 11

Flood - Genesis 6

Nations - Genesis 10

Abraham [The Believer!] -

Genesis 15:6 - Rom. 4, Gal. 3, 4

True Israel - Rom. 9, Heb. 11

Moses - Gal. 3, Rom. 3

## Romans 3:19-30

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

## Romans 3:19-30

<sup>21</sup>But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

## Romans 3:19-30

<sup>25</sup>God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished — <sup>26</sup>he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

## Romans 3:19-30

<sup>27</sup>Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. <sup>29</sup>Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, <sup>30</sup>since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.



# The Story

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

## **Revelation 21:3,4, 22:2b-3**

<sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
“Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will  
live with them. They will be his people, and God  
himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup>He will  
wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more  
death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order  
of things has passed away.”

## **Revelation 21:3,4, 22:2b-3**

On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month.

And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

# Israel as Microcosm

# Israel as Microcosm

## Deuteronomy 26:18

<sup>18</sup>And the LORD has declared this day that you are his people, his treasured possession as he promised, and that you are to keep all his commands.

# The Conclusion of the Matter

# The Conclusion of the Matter

## Ephesians 2:11-3:6

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (that done in the body by the hands of men) – <sup>12</sup>remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

# The Conclusion of the Matter

## Ephesians 2:11-3:6

<sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup>by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup>He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

# The Conclusion of the Matter

## Ephesians 2:11-3:6

<sup>19</sup>Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

<sup>21</sup>In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

# The Conclusion of the Matter

**Ephesians 2:11-3:6**

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles —

# The Conclusion of the Matter

## Ephesians 2:11-3:6

<sup>2</sup>Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. <sup>4</sup>In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

# The Conclusion of the Matter

## Ephesians 2:11-3:6

<sup>6</sup>This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

# Gospel Application

# Gospel Application

Three Cities Today

# Gospel Application

## Three Cities Today

- 1. I can do this w/o Jesus*

# Gospel Application

Three Cities Today

1. *I can do this w/o Jesus*

**MORALISM**

# Gospel Application

## Three Cities Today

### 2. *Jesus + Something*

# Gospel Application

Three Cities Today

2. *Jesus + Something*

**RELIGION**

# Gospel Application

Three Cities Today

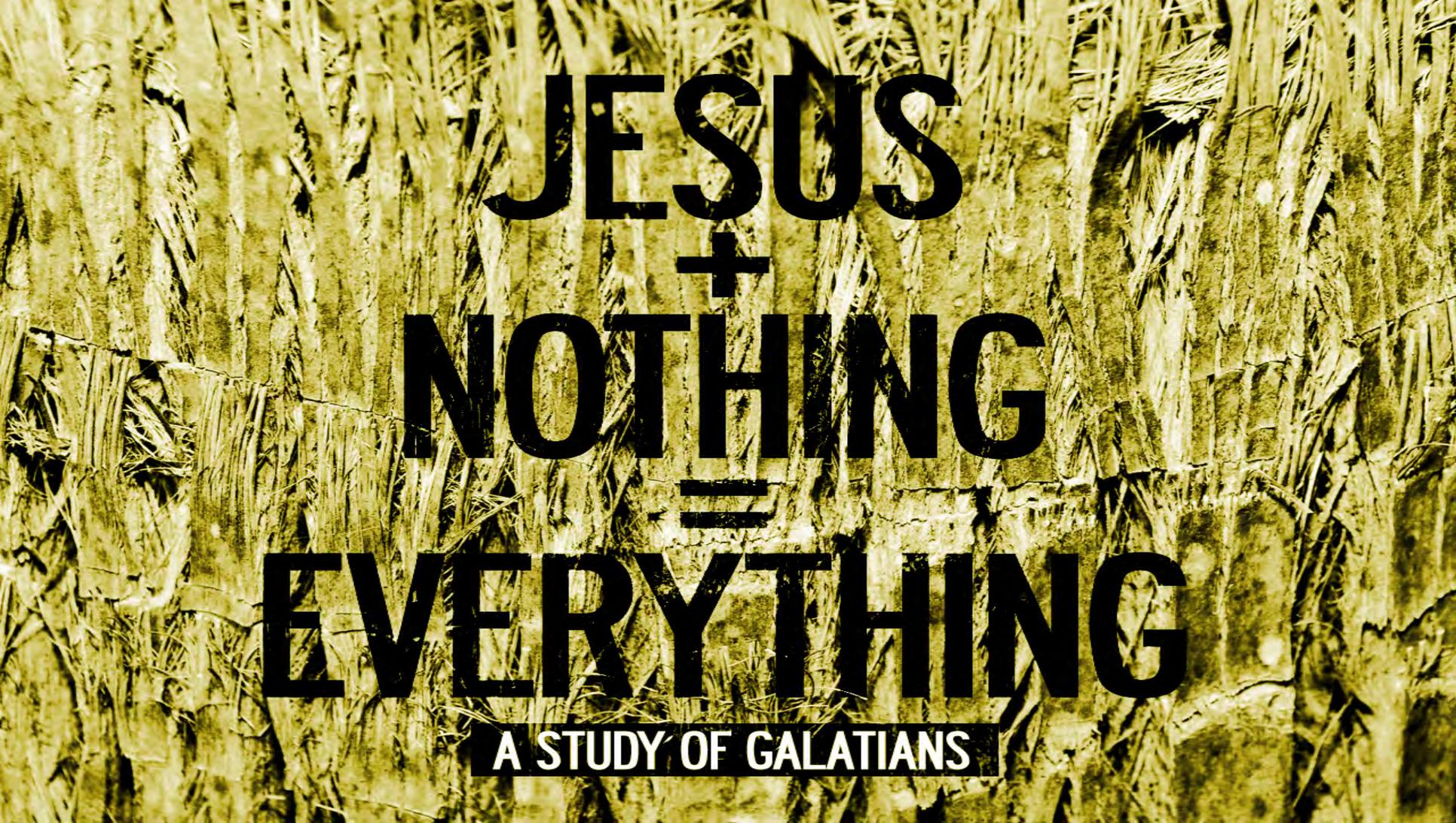
3. *Just Jesus!*

# Gospel Application

Three Cities Today

3. *Just Jesus!*

**GOSPEL**



**JESUS  
+  
NOTHING  
=  
EVERYTHING**

**A STUDY OF GALATIANS**