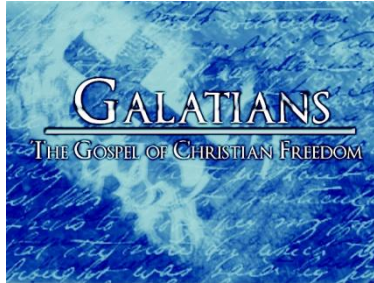


Galatians 1 - "that He might deliver us from this present evil world", Vs. 4



Galatians 1:3&4:

Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, **that he might deliver us from this present evil world**, according to the will of God and our Father.

Is deliverance from the evil of this world possible for you IN THIS LIFE?
To what evil does this freedom apply?

Look intently at the words of the above verse and make them personal. Grace be to ME. Jesus Christ Who gave Himself for MY sins that he might deliver ME from this present evil world - this was God's will.

Notice the word, 'present' referring to your NOW life in this evil world.
Deliverance from the power of evil in the world for you is not in the future.

"Greater is He that is IN you, than he (Satan) that is in the world", 1 John 4:4.

How was this rescue/deliverance accomplished?

Jesus' Blood paid the debt I owed the Court of Heaven for my sins. (The wages of sin is death, Romans 6:23.)

This payment of **my** 'sin debt' rescued **me** from having to pay the penalty.

This 'payment' of my sin debt gave God the right to release me from bondage to **the power of sin** when I called upon Him for salvation.

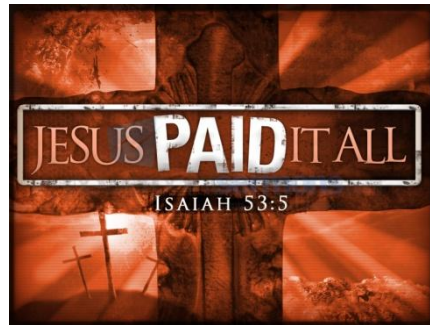
Satan is the power behind sin.

Being released from sin's power is release from Satan's power.

Satan is the 'god of this world', the 'prince of the power of sin in the air'.

When I was born again, I was released by the Blood from Satan's right to control me.

God sent Christ to RESCUE ME from the Wicked One and his rule over me.



Other versions (as you read them, put me/my in for us/our):

For Christ, **to rescue us** from this **present wicked age**, gave himself for our sins, in accordance with the will of our God and Father. Twentieth Century NT

....to rescue us from the evil world that **surrounds** us. Knox

....to deliver us from the present evil age. English Standard

....to set us free from this evil world. Aramaic Bible in Plain English

....**in order to free us** from this present evil world, **Christ took the punishment** for our sins, **because that is what God the Father wanted**. God's Word Translation

....in order to rescue us from the **present wicked age**. Weymouth N.T.

....that he might deliver us from the **present evil world-system**. Complete Jewish Bible

The following are from various commentaries:

Deliver - this word strikes the 'keynote' of the Epistle (This is a wonderful statement. You could write this word, 'deliverance - the keynote of this Epistle', at the top of the first page of the Epistle to the Galatians to set the tone of your mind as you read it. Go through Galatians looking for all the topics that set forth your deliverance: from this world, from the requirement of the Law for righteousness, from the flesh, etc.)

....to pluck (me) out, to rescue (me), to draw (me) out, to deliver (me).

....(my) emancipation from the state of bondage.

....out of the age, the existing one being evil.

....not a removal from (physically) but a rescue **from the power** of the present age.
....to rescue (me) as from danger. (The evil forces operating in this present age are dangerous to all mankind, and have their particular operations toward me and my life. Jesus died to set me free from the control of these evil forces.)

World: aionos/age

The evil forces of this present age exert their influence through:

"All that **floating mass** of (1) thoughts, (2) opinions, (3) speculations, (4) hopes, (5) impulses, (6) aims, at any time current in the world; the immoral atmosphere which at every moment of our lives is exerting its pressures on us."

I thought that statement, 'floating mass', very thought provoking. Picture in your mind a 'floating mass' of the next six things: thoughts, opinions, speculations, hopes, impulses, aims, etc. Every day of your life you are moving in and through this 'floating mass'.

This is why Paul literally begs the Romans to 'renew their minds' so that these evil forces do not conform them to this world through their thought life, Romans 12:2: "Be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove (in this life), what is that good, acceptable and perfect will of God".

Evil: Greek 'poneros'

....speaks of the man not content with corrupting only himself but who must corrupt others also. Satan is 'the poneros one'.

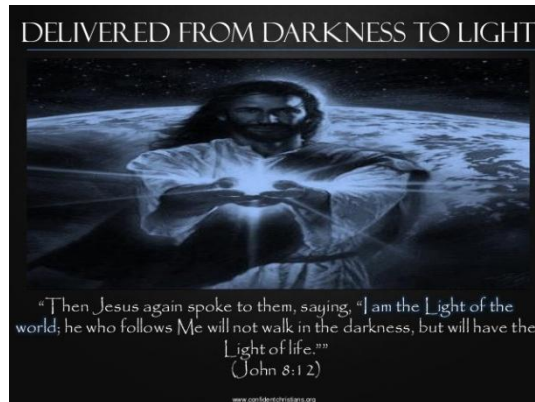
The Substitutionary Atonement is **the procedure** planned by God the Father which **accomplished** my rescue/deliverance/plucking me out of his (Satan's) hand/drawing me out of his control.



The three words we have looked at:

Galatians 1:4:

(Jesus) gave himself for our (my) sins,
that he might **deliver** us(me) from this present **evil world**,
according to the will of God and our Father.



Pulpit Commentary:

By His Blood, Jesus delivered me:

- Out of this "power, this **empire, of darkness,**" in which by birth, apart from Christ's grace, I was hopelessly captivated;
- out of the grasp of this empire/this kingdom of darkness from which I was unable by any efforts of my own to be delivered, Christ alone rescued me;
- and even He was only able to "**rescue**" me by virtue of **the Redemptive Sacrifice of himself.**

Therefore, he is said to 'redeem' (λυτροῦσθαι) me from **all iniquity.** This definition of 'redeem' includes:

- not only the idea of his **paying a ransom for my emancipation,** but **also** the thought that,
- **by the power of his grace, he makes the ransom effective for my actual spiritual deliverance** **when** I believe on him (that specific moment in time when I received Christ as my Savior).

Vines Collected Writings:

The verb, 'rescue' is in the middle voice, suggesting that He who delivers me has an interest **in the result** in my life of His own act.

This particular meaning shows that Jesus' involvement in my life doesn't end when I receive him as my Savior. He has a continual interest in **maintaining my freedom** from this 'empire of darkness'.



Meditation on Galatians 1:4 will renew your mind to the FACT stated there. Then you will find the power of his deliverance beginning to manifest in your everyday life as you navigate through the floating mass of the evil empire. The Wicked One may come, but he will not be successful in his influence upon you.

A closing thought:

Either the Cross was the most colossal blunder, a tragic demonstration of the uselessness of being 'a good man', or else it was the world's most colossal triumph. It was in fact the decisive victory for world redemption. A Roman spear opened Christ's side and exposed the very heart of God - all love.

That...! That price! For what? Add it up, and it spells JESUS SAVES. The words, "Jesus saves", embraces everything that defeats us. Every life has a thousand needs. Salvation touches all weaknesses, reaches into the past and future, and is for body, soul and mind, for earth and for heaven. Jesus saves us from our sins, from folly, failure and fear, pride and illusion, the devil's deceit and every threatening circumstance. Christ is the Master of it all. Jesus saves! Christ's hell-shattering work has opened heaven's fountain of resources for all struggling souls. "He that believes in Me, has life." Being saved means being "born again". "To as many as received Him, to them gave He power to be the sons of God." Yes! Yes! Yes! Jesus is wonderful. God bless you today.

REINHARD BONNKE



