

Gal. 4:8-18

⁸ Then, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who were, by nature, not gods. ⁹ But now, when you know God – better said, being known by God – how are you turning back again to the weak and poor elementary principles to which you desire to be enslaved all over again? ¹⁰ That is – you are scrupulously keeping days and months and times and years. ¹¹ I am afraid for you, that somehow, I have toiled among you in vain. ¹² You should be like I am, because I also became like you were, brothers. I am begging you, let no one treat me unjustly.

¹³ You know that I first preached the Gospel to you because of a weakness of the flesh. ¹⁴ You did not reject your trial by my flesh. Neither did you disdain it. But rather, as [you would receive] a messenger from God, you received me, as [you would receive] Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Where then, is your blessing? For, I testify to you, that, if it were possible, tearing out your eyes, you would give them to me.

¹⁶ Therefore, did I become your enemy by speaking the truth to you? ¹⁷ They are not being zealous for you in a good way, but they want to separate you [from us] so that you would be zealous for them. ¹⁸ To always be zealous for the good is good, and not only when I am present with you.