

Hello! This is Dorothy -

It is such a joy to speak to you today from the Word of the living God. You know, when we handle the Word, it is not our opinion; it is God's Word speaking to us by His Spirit. If you have a Bible, I would like you to turn to the **Book of Galatians**. You might say, "Well, this is a little bit of a heavy Book. I do not know quite what it is all about." Let me sum it up with an incredible little verse or chorus that somebody wrote many years ago.

*_ Free from the law, O happy condition!
Jesus hath bled, and there is remission;
Cursed by the law and bruised by the fall,
Grace hath redeemed us once for all.
Once for all, O sinner, receive it!
Once for all, O sister, believe it!
Cling to the Cross, the burden will fall;
Christ hath redeemed us once for all! _*

In **Galatians chapter 1**, we read - and I am reading from the Amplified, which explains what the original words mean from the

Greek -

1 Paul, an apostle — [special messenger appointed and commissioned and sent out] not from [any body of] men nor by or through any man, but by and through Jesus Christ (the Messiah) and God the Father, Who raised Him from the dead —

The **apostle** - what does that really mean? Well, sometimes people have the laying on of hands and the people who lay on the hands say, “Somebody laid hands on me from another generation,” and they feel they can go on right back and feel, “We have such an authentic apostleship or a laying on of hands or a commissioning.” There is a sense that people have been commissioned out to the work of the Lord, but Paul received directly from the Lord Jesus Christ. He was not sent out by some denominational group or organization. I am not knocking that, but this man had an authority, because he had been **sent (forth) by . . . Jesus Christ (the Messiah) and from God the Father Who raised Him - Jesus Christ - from the dead.**

So we go on and we read in **chapter 1 --**

2 And all the brethren who are with me, to the churches of Galatia: Now Galatia wasn't a town; it was a province; it was an area.

3 Grace and spiritual blessing be to you and [soul] peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah).

Grace. Have you noticed the order of this? First, the **grace** and then, the **peace**. You can always tell this is Paul writing as he did this over

and over as he commenced his letters. **Grace** - *that is spiritual blessing*. You know, that is a lovely word. It really means *beauty*. It is *God's unmerited favor toward us*. I am so grateful that I have been saved by grace. It is God's unmerited favor toward me; not by my works. And the **spiritual blessing** and the **soul peace**. I am speaking to somebody today and you are going through all the routine of what you think God requires of you, but you do not have soul peace. Soul peace is such an awesome, awesome gift from God. It comes when our reliance is by faith: by faith in the living Lord, by faith in every aspect of the steps that we take day by day; by faith and by His grace. This is made possible that this peace will be ours. Nothing becomes that obstacle between us and God. Some of us without realizing, add something to our relationship with the Lord. When we bring along this something, that deep soul peace is gone. Perhaps you have been pushed along like I was: "Oh, you should do this for the Lord. You should do that for the Lord. You should act in such a manner, and after all, this is expected of you! Fancy that person over there did such a thing or said something. Isn't that disgusting? God expects this of us!" You know, God expects nothing of us but sin and failure. but He looks to His Son, Jesus Christ, Who alone can give us this grace and Who can give us this soul peace.

Stop a moment and let me ask you: How long has it been since you have known that real soul peace? "Oh," you say, "I read my Bible and

I go to church and I am extremely busy for God! I think I come at the top of the class among the people I know.” I am not asking that. What about your soul peace - that peace which overwhelms you, because you are adding nothing, nothing to the fact that your salvation is based on the precious Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ? That soul peace comes through the Lord alone. The Father and the Lord are linked in all of this. Have you noticed that not only in **verse 1** but also in this **verse 3**?

And then we read -

4 Who gave (yielded) Himself up [to atone] for our sins [and to save and sanctify us] . . . Saved by His Blood that we might have grace and soul peace. Open your heart to Him today. Receive that in Christ Jesus. Say, *Not I, Christ, but You. Thank You for the work You have done for me. I receive You and I praise You.*

In Jesus' Name. Amen.