

Galatians 1 No Other Gospel

The Bible has so much to teach us about life. Over the last few weeks we have been dealing with what it means to be a man and woman according to scripture. What marriage looks like and even what sex specifically looks like according to scripture. Before that we took a look at what scripture had to say about societal issues, from abortion, poverty, and social justice. Each of these topics were dealt with from a biblical prospective. Each of these topics are important not only for our day and age to discuss but have been relaxant throughout human history. The bible is relevant through all generations from creation to now and will continue to be so. The Bible is relevant because the Bible is the absolute word and truth of God. Paul tells us that All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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So it makes sense that we seek to understand it, do meditate on it, to make it not just a habit, but an essential part of our daily life. It shapes us, and molds us, emboldens us, and keeps our hearts and minds focused on what is truly important in this world. Bringing Glory to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. This is the power of the scripture. For it is through the Words of God that we have the greatest story ever told, The Gospel! The story of Christ's redeeming word on the cross. The story of Jesus taking our place when it should have been us being punished for our sin.

This good news is the only news that frankly is good news. However, There is but one Gospel of Jesus Christ. Since the beginning there have been those who have sought to change the Gospel in small ways to fit their agenda, to make it more palatable, to make it more profitable. They have taken things out to make the world see them more favorable. The good news has been used for political gain and ammunition. It's been added to and taken away from in the name of tolerance and peace. But the truth is, there is but one gospel. Not many.

500 years ago a group of men and many women started something that would shape the future of the church. Fed up with the Catholic Church and the way they were selling indulgences and penance, Martin Luther wrote out 95 Theses that would lay a foundation for Reformation that would eventually bring about the

modern Evangelical Church. In the midst of the reformation, the The Letter to the Galatians was instrumental in their pursuit of the truth of Christ.

Chapter 1

Galatians→There was a battle growing... legalism was growing inside the church and Paul is going to establish the Centrality of **GRACE** in the church

Read

Introduction v1-2

- Paul's apostleship→ not from man.
 - o "To me it is a pitiful sight to see Paul defending himself as an apostle, and doing this, not against
 - o No man appointed him→ Verse 11-23 is dedicated to Paul speaking to the Galatians so that they will know that His apostleship and Gospel are not from Man. He gives a detailed look at his past and the time directly after his conversion
 - o He is thorough because he wants his claims of the Gospel to have their foundation in Christ not in his own understandingThrough Jesus and God the Father
 - This is the basis of his authority.
 - IF you are unfamiliar with the story of Paul/ Saul...
 - Persecutor of the church, In Acts 9 he was on his way to Damascus when the Lord appears to him and asks him why he is persecuting HIM. God had different plans for Paul and he comes an unashamed proclaimer of the Gospel of Christ.
 - So This is why Paul introduces himself in this way. The people would have been familiar with his conversion story and know that he does not take this call to go to the gentiles lightly.
 - How do you introduce yourself?
- V 3-5 Grace and peace from God and Christ
 - o True Grace and peace can only come from them.
 - o Paul give shortened Gospel
 - Gave→for our sins. Sins had separated us from God.

- He makes sure that the Galatians know that it was Jesus Christ who has given himself for their sins. It was he that has bridged the Gap between God and Man.
- Jesus did this at the Father's will.
- Paul is stating that the Salvation from God was part of the grand plan from the beginning. This sending of Jesus was not plan B. It wasn't the "break in case of Emergency"
- It was God's plan from the beginning to bring himself Glory.

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NO OTHER GOSPEL 6-7

Paul jumps right in (would have been considered bad penmanship of the day to jump in like he is.)

It mattered to him that much. Let's spend just a few minutes expounding on very 6...there are a couple of words that we need to focus on that Paul includes for Effect.

- V6. Astonished → shocked. Dumbfounded. This is personal. Disciplined them. There is a deep sense of hurt in Paul
 - This is personal to him. This is the kind of astonishment that we too should have when it comes to the Gospel.
 - When he sees that they are turning to a different Gospel this is not something that can easily be ignored.
- Quickly deserting HIM. JESUS The one who called them. Jesus sought them out and now they...
 - Term means to transfer to something else (Changing teams).
 - Turncoat → Think Benedict Arnold that famous general during the American Revolutionary War. Arnold was held in high esteem by George Washington and was set in charge over West Point in 1780. When things began to go against him on the American side, he conspired to surrender West Point to the British Major John Andre for 20,000 Pounds. The plot was foiled and the rest history but Arnold would go down as a traitor a turncoat. He would even have children's books written about him depicting him as an egg thief.
 - A turncoat that would not only flee the country but turned from the side that was ultimately going to win.

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- Paul is broken over this. The extent of his feelings for the Galatians is written of very vividly in
 - L 4:11
 - I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain.
 - 19→My little children, for whom I am again in anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!
 - The man recognized the great pain that goes into this process and that is what he is equating this with. It's that bad. No epidural. This is a gut punch to its highest level.
 - ▲ Not only changing sides but they are leaving "hastily"—> with rashness- not considering the cost/ consequences/
 - GRACE. Eph 2:8 → For By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.
 - Webster's...."Unmerited divine assistance given humans for their regeneration or sanctification." No assistance it was done for us. We could not do it on our own.
 - There we adding to the Gospel you must be circumcised. Ch 5
 - Turning to a different Gospel has eternal consequences.
 - You/we cannot afford to get the Gospel wrong.
 - Just adding..... If you add anything to the gospel you demish the Grace poured upon us.
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- V7. Not another gospel.
 - There is but one and it is the one that Paul has always preached
 - Grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.
 - Some have distorted the truth. Bringing in extras. Agitating the church
 - The Gospel plus anything is no long the Gospel.
 - There are some who trouble you and ant to distort the gospel.
 - This is not ok.
 - There is a lot of talk of tolerance or acceptance on the part of the world. That what is right for them we must accept. If you want to worship Jesus and follow Buddha that is ok. All roads lead to the same god anyway.

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- We see the change that oh you don't have to have known Jesus when you get to heaven to get in. "You were a good person and that is all that matter."
- The good news of Jesus is that he taught us how to live a life that can get us to God just like so many other religions. They all point the same way.
- Paul says no... these people are troubling you and are distorting the Gospel of Christ.

V8-9. Paul takes it a step farther. Boldness. The implications of teaching and proclaiming a false Gospel are high.

- V8. EVEN If WE or an Angel from Heaven
- Anathema- Accursed. May we be cast out.
 - It doesn't matter if it is me or an angel. We are not above the Gospel.
 - If we do may we be accursed for going against the
 - Curse Remover 3:13

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We cannot afford to get the Gospel wrong.

- Christ's Glory is at stake. → for his ultimate Glory.
- People's Souls are at stake → The Gospel transforms lives
- The health of the church is at stake. → the foundation for the church
 - Without the Gospel. Without Jesus penal substitution there is no church. There is no 'believer' there is only the law and the law leads to death because we cannot hope to keep it. For there is no one righteous. No one who seeks after God.

V10 Paul is not a people pleaser.

- He has used some strong language but its not about pleasing man.
- Has no place in the ministry. If I try to pleas you then I am not a servant/slave to Christ.
 - Its not about the feel good moments is about the Grace of God poured out through Jesus
 - Don't always want to hear it.

But why is Paul so adamant about this Gospel.

Why he so passionate about THE GOSPEL: unaltered untampered with.

11-24

1. The Gospel is Divine Revelation to man. It came directly to him. Not something he got from man. The Gospel was not man's idea. What man could possibly come up with such a story.
 - a. We are self-centered self-glorifying beings who are solely focused on the one that truly matters. ME
 - b. Paul was given the Gospel directly from Jesus Christ Himself. V12
 - i. acts 9
 - c. Paul is protective of the Gospel.
 - d. Goes even further in protecting his receiving of the Gospel. 16b-22. He avoided contacting any of the apostles. He was

2. The Gospel is life changing. His Conversion was not his doing → v13-14
 - a. Persecuted the church. Advancing in the ranks of Judaism.
 - b. Living out the dream. Zealous- promotions
 - c. Paul was a big deal in Judaism.
 - d. V15-16
 - i. Paul was set apart before he was Born and called by GRACE.
 - ii. Paul didn't go to the grace. He did seek out grace. By Grace Called him out. Not deserving.
 - iii. This is our story. Romans 3:10-12
 1. "None is righteous, no, not one; ¹¹no one understands; no one seeks for God. ¹²All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."
 - e. Then one day v16 God was pleased to reveal His son "In" me.
 - i. On the Road Paul had an amazing encounter with the risen Christ.
 - ii. Not only did he come to Paul but entered "IN" Paul.
 - iii. Changed him from the inside.
 - iv. Once did this and that.

- v. That is why he is so upset that the Galatians would turn allegiance from Jesus and run after this other Gospel.

3. The Gospel Glorifies God. V24

- a. Paul's Ultimate Goal is to See Christ Glorified through this proclamation of the Gospel. That is why he is so careful in choosing his word.
- b. Why he is so astonished that the Galatians were turning away. They were not only turning from the Gospel but they were turning from God. When we turn from God we do not Glorify him.
 - i. When we add to the gospel we say that it is insufficient
 - ii. We instead say there is something more important than Christ.
 - iii. We say that the Gospel, Christ's atoning work on the Cross is not sufficient for us.

Our Ultimate Goal is to see Christ Glorified. If we believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If our hearts have been changed and we no longer live to sin then we seek to glorify Christ.

As believers we must be aware and intune with the Gospel so that we can discern a false Gospel.