

THE GOSPEL OF PAUL

Galatians 1

Introduction

The Gospel that Paul preached is critical to the faith of believers today. He was chosen by God to proclaim the truth of the Gospel to his and future generations. This Gospel must be followed to receive salvation from God. There are many that profess a different gospel today, which is no gospel at all, and sinners are not saved from Hell. That also was true in Paul's day. The Judaizers opposed Paul's message of the Gospel and claimed that salvation was by faith in Christ plus keeping the Law of Moses. They taught that the rite of circumcision was necessary for a person to be saved. On the other hand, Paul insisted that circumcision was not necessary for salvation, but it was a removal from the freedom in Christ and a retreat to the bondage of the Law. He preached that salvation comes by faith alone in Christ's finished work on the cross and not with works of righteousness or ceremonial rites of the Law. The need of circumcision was a signal that a person was in danger of not being saved. He wrote, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other Gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal 1:8).

Aim of the Lesson

It is to examine the Gospel of Christ carefully so we are sure of our salvation and are able to help others be saved.

Outline of the Lesson

A, Right of Paul to Preach the Gospel of Grace (1:1-5)

What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ? (1:4; 2:20) The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

What is the purpose of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? (1:4) To deliver us from this present evil world.

We must draw close to Christ and separate ourselves from this present evil world.

B. Removal from Christ by the Galatians (1:6-9)

How did some Galatian believers show that they were removing themselves from Christ?

They were receiving another gospel.

Name some of the other gospels that are preached in churches today.

Social gospel tries to give man a better world in which to live now. **Sacramental gospel** tries to give man eternal life by religious rituals. **Good works gospel** tries to earn salvation by being good to others.

We need to warn immature believers of those that pervert the Gospel so they do not remove themselves from the freedom found in Christ.

C. Revelation of the Gospel to Paul (1:10-16a)

How did Paul receive the Gospel? From God by revelation of Jesus Christ

What was Paul to do with the Gospel? To reveal Christ in him among the Gentiles by preaching the Gospel.

We need to tell others how we were saved so we can lead them to Christ.

D. Reliance of Paul on God's Call (1:16b-24)

How did Paul show that he was dependent on Christ for the Gospel that he preached?

He did not go to Jerusalem to meet with the Apostles for 3 years.

How did Paul show that his Gospel was in harmony with the Gospel of the Apostles?

He met with Peter and James and the churches rejoiced when they heard he was preaching the faith that he once tried to destroy

We need the reputation that our Gospel is the grace of Jesus Christ, not the Law.

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST IS GRACIOUS

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