

“DON’T MESS WITH THE MESSAGE” – Galatians 1:1-9

The Messenger

¹This letter is from Paul, an apostle. I was not appointed by any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ himself and by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.
²All the brothers and sisters here join me in sending this letter to the churches of Galatia.

- The apostle Paul was **CALLED** by God
- And **CONFIRMED** by the Church
- To share **THE** message of grace

The Message

³May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. ⁴Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live. ⁵All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.

The [Gospel] Message: The **STORY** about Jesus

“Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you... Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said...” – 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

- **Who SAVES and REDEEMS** people from their sin
- **And gives them a new opportunity for a transformed LIFE**
- **That PLEASES** God

“The Good News is about his Son.” – Romans 1:3

“This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight.”
– Romans 1:17

The Mess

⁶I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News ⁷but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ.

⁸Let God’s curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you. ⁹I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed.

The Issue Confronting the Galatians:

Is a person made right with God

By faith **ALONE**

OR

By a combination of faith + **WORKS**

1. For Paul, the situation is **CRITICAL**

- a. The Galatians have changed positions on a crucial subject
- b. A different gospel means you are deserting the one true gospel
- c. A different gospel is no gospel at all

2. The consequence is a **CURSE**

- a. A different gospel brings condemnation
- b. Not just discipline, but final damnation and wrath

The Application

1. **WHO** we listen to matters
2. **WHAT** we believe matters

“For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.”

– Romans 1:16