

Series: Galatians: In Christ Alone, No Other Gospel

“The Heart of the Gospel”

Galatians 2:15-21

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The Good News is about Jesus who saves and redeems people from their sin and gives them a new opportunity for a transformed life that pleases God.

“Jesus 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. All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.” – Galatians 1:4-5

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

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

1 – Made right people are **CHANGED people (vv. 15-16)**

“We know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law.” (v. 16a)

- We are **JUSTIFIED** – legal metaphor meaning “made right,” declared “not guilty,” “innocent,” or “righteous”

“We have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law.” (v. 16b)

- By **FAITH** – active “entrustment”
- That entails a **PERSONAL DECISION**
- And a firm **COMMITMENT**

“For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.” (v. 16c)

- Persons are made right by **GRACE**
- Apart from works of the **LAW**

“The freedom that comes through Christ is not a license to sin, but a strength to live in righteousness.” Scot McKnight

2 – Made right people are **CHANGING people (vv. 17-21)**

¹⁷ But suppose we seek to be made right with God through faith in Christ and then we are found guilty because we have abandoned the law. Would that mean Christ has led us into sin? Absolutely not!

¹⁸ Rather, I am a sinner if I rebuild the old system of law I already tore down. ¹⁹ For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law—I stopped trying to meet all its requirements—so that I might live for God. (vv. 17-19)

- We are being **SANCTIFIED** – a continual process of being made “holy,” set apart, “Christ-like”
- Living “FOR” God is the **REST** of the Gospel

²⁰ My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.

“The Gospel doesn’t just save us. It changes us.”

- Being crucified with Christ brings **PARDON** – forgiveness of past sin, freedom from the law, and a passionate urge never to sin again
- Being crucified with Christ brings **POWER** – we do not live out of our own resources but by Christ who lives in us, sustaining us
- Being crucified with Christ brings **PARTNERSHIP** – we find meaning and purpose in sharing in the life of Christ, his plan, his mission

REMINDER: *The Good News is about Jesus who saves and redeems people from their sin and gives them a new opportunity for a transformed life that pleases God.*

“The Gospel is more than an explanation about Jesus. It is a demonstration of Jesus.” J.D. Walt

1. Does my life reflect a life that has **been changed** by the Gospel?
2. Does my life reflect a life that is **being changed** by the Gospel?