

Series: Galatians: In Christ Alone, No Other Gospel

“O, Come On Galatian’s!”

Galatians 3:1-5

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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.

“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?

General Observations

- For the Apostle Paul, the cross of Christ is at the **CENTER** of his theology
- There are false teachers in Galatia preaching a different gospel that **PRETENDS** to be Good News but is not good at all
- They are trying to **DISCREDIT** Paul’s message and authority
- Paul demonstrates how his message and the message of the Jerusalem apostles is **UNIFIED**
- Paul’s entire letter is intended to **REORIENT** the Galatian’s back to the one true gospel as the Galatians have begun to be sucked in by the Judaizers

“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.” – Galatians 1:6-7

“¹⁶We know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law.” – Galatians 2:16

“¹⁷Be on guard; then you will not be carried away by the errors of these wicked people and lose your own secure footing. ¹⁸Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” – 2 Peter 3:17-18

“¹Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ’s death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. ²Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. ³How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? ⁴Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it? ⁵I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ.” (3:1-5)

Paul forces the Galatians to choose between two options (v. 2).

Were they saved [made right with God] by:

1 – **ACHIEVING** = “works of the law”

2 – **BELIEVING** = “by grace through faith in Christ alone”

Paul’s rhetorical questions lead to one simple, multiple-choice question:

- **How good do you have to be to go to heaven [be made right]?**

A. **PRETTY** good

B. **REALLY** good

C. **PERFECT**

The Correct Answer Is:

“C”

“⁵People are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God who forgives sinners.” – Romans 4:5

The Nature of Grace

1. **BEGINS** with God = it “calls” us
2. Is **SUSTAINED** by God = it “changes” us
3. Finds **COMPLETION** in God = it “completes” us

Paul’s Argument from Experience

- To know **ABOUT** the love of God is not enough
- We need to **FEEL** it, **SENSE** it, and be **MOVED** by it
- Always **TESTED** against Scripture