

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

"No Other Gospel"

Gal. 1:6-9.

Introduction

1. When the glory of God is established, then the truth of the Gospel is being preached and lived.

2. The attitude and persuasion of God concerning those who are out of harmony with His Gospel is awe-inspiring.

3. Paul affirms that the Gospel of God's grace is the ONLY Gospel and any other presentation is under the anathema of God.

4. The truth of this proposition is supported by Paul's evaluation of legalism and the false teachings of the Judaizers. He states that their position is:

1. A DEFECTION. v. 6.

This defection according to Paul is:

a. A marvel.

Paul actually notes that he wonders at something which is blameworthy. Cf. Mark 6:6; John 7:21.

b. A removal.

The use of the pres. mid. tense shows that the Galatians were "turning themselves renegades." The defection was in process. It was their own fault. Most of all--it was "so soon."

c. A proposal.

The apostle notes that this removal is actually from Christ to a heterodox gospel. It is from a person, hence real spiritual snobbery. The turn landed them in something which is altogether heterodox. How tragic!

2. AN INFECTION. v. 7.

The infection which Paul mentions is at once in two directions:

a. Decisive.

The decisiveness of the situation is brought to the fore thru the use of the forthright statement: "which is not another." Here is a great play on words by Paul.

The word "other" in v. 6 means another of a different kind while the "other" in v. 7 means another of the same kind.

Paul affirms that what they brought (the Judaizers) was not really a Gospel at all. Would to God we would be as forthright about stating the case as Paul is here in the Word.

b. Active

The infection thru the teachers from Jerusalem was active--it was not something which just happened in upon the Galatians. This is emphasized by the two verbs:

1) Trouble. Here is a verb used with the idea of shaking one's allegiance from Christ.

2) Transform. Has thot of changing into an opposite character. Acts 2:20; James 4:9. What an attempt to reverse the Gospel of grace!

N.B. If people can be shaken from Christ and His infinite sufficiency, the next step is to reverse the Gospel of grace to works. One who holds to the vital Person of Christ will never be led off into legalism.

3. A CORRECTION vv. 8-9.

The correction here concerns two items:

a. Presentation of the Gospel.

Whether an angelic being or otherwise should present a word different from Paul, the apostle argues this man or being is of no account.

b. Definition of the Gospel.

Anything which is either besides or contrary to what Paul announced is wrong (I. Cor. 15:1-10). He is to be devoted for destruction.

Con. The uniqueness of the Gospel of Grace is patent.