

Rock the Riverfront is 7 days away.

Who is ready, all hands on deck. Loading up at 7pm on friday night and setting up starting at 7am on saturday morning.

We will be having a short meeting today after church so please give me 10-15 mins.

There are some things that you can ruin if you add onto them.

Think of a great food recipe that has been handed down through the family. You know the ingredients and what it takes to get it good. Try to “improve” it and you can ruin the taste. Think of cars, computer programs, devices, or other things in our lives that have been “improved,” only to make things more complicated or less effective. For all those old tech guys we remember vista.

Galatians 1:1-19 ESV

Greeting

1 Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— 2 and all the brothers[a] who are with me,

To the churches of Galatia:

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Paul opens his letter to the Galatians by describing the work of Christ for our redemption, saying that Christ “gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father” (Galatians 1:4).

### No Other Gospel

6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant[b] of Christ.

He then moves to the issue of the Galatians believing a different gospel than the one that is in Christ: “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ” (Galatians 1:6–7).

“That Christ died for our sins and justifies us by faith should not be reduced to a subjective, existentialist interpretation.

There is not one gospel according to Paul, another according to Peter, and another according to John, with each stating the result of his own philosophical speculations on the nature of reality, and how man can be put right with the ineffable sovereign power. No. Paul says Jesus Himself revealed this Gospel to him – and that this is the same Gospel He lived before the twelve disciples, the same Gospel that they continue to preach. There is

one Gospel, from God, not based on the authority of any man, but revealed and put into effect by God Himself.

This is GOD's gospel – so anyone who preaches another is NOT representing God.

As Paul will argue at length in Galatians, what God has done in Christ is directly related to his covenant promises to Israel as well as to the final salvation of all the redeemed.

The Christian now lives in profound tension between the No Longer and the Not Yet ...

We live in a world that everyone now has a different interpretation of the word. I have seen some churches take so many things out of context. So many youtubers take symbolic things and compare it literal

Christ has rescued us from this present evil age through justifying us by faith and pouring out his Spirit in our lives.

Here we see the false gospel that was being presented to the Galatians was that you accept Jesus as your Savior, but you also need to keep the Mosaic law in order to be fully accepted by God.

Having stated the Gospel in his intro, Paul keeps reminding his readers of its central points:

Paul could have simply said: “so quickly deserting God.” But instead he highlights the Gospel itself. The one they are deserting is:

The one who called them

The one who spoke to them with life-giving force

The one who miraculously touched them, when they were

His enemies

The one whose grace and mercy are their only hope

The one who displayed that grace in sending Christ Jesus to die for their sins.

### Paul Called by God

11 For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel.[c] 12 For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. 13 For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. 14 And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the

traditions of my fathers. 15 But when he who had set me apart before I was born,[d] and who called me by his grace, 16 was pleased to reveal his Son to[e] me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone;[f] 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. 19 But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

“This doctrine Paul simply will not tolerate. What? Add human merits to the merit of Christ and human works to the work of Christ?

God forbid! The work of Christ is a finished work; and the gospel of Christ is a gospel of free grace. Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, without any admixture of human works or merits.

It is due solely to God's gracious call, and not to any good works of our own.

Paul goes further than this. He says that the defection of the Galatian converts was in their experience as well as in

their theology. He accuses them not of deserting the gospel of grace for another gospel, but of 'deserting him who called' them in grace.

In other words, theology and experience, Christian faith and Christian life, belong together and cannot be separated. To turn from the gospel of grace is to turn from the God of grace.

The false gospel that was being presented to the Galatians was that you accept Jesus as your Savior, but you also need to keep the Mosaic law in order to be fully accepted by God.

These teachers believed the gospel was good. They were not against it. But then they said the gospel of redemption through Jesus wasn't complete.

Today too, we can often think that Christianity needs to be upgraded with works or with other forms of spirituality mixed in to make it more complete.

Some other improvement is needed to help us become enlightened, mindful, or some form of spiritual guru.

I know we have come a long way between the churches in galatia and now.

The Most important thing is that the church is preaching  
This Gospel and unedited or diluted gospel.

The Gospel was so precious to Paul that its distortion troubled him deeply. God's glory in the Gospel is so precious to Paul that he found the perversion of the Gospel most disturbing.

If we had the same passion for the Gospel as Paul the world will be in a better place

The gospel, as Paul writes in his letter, is full and complete. Our salvation comes through Christ alone. Anyone who teaches otherwise is not to be trusted but should be considered as one who is "accursed" (vv. 8–9).

Like the Galatians, we have a responsibility to compare what it taught to what Scripture actually says. If it doesn't measure up, we are to treat it as a distortion of the truth.

This week when we preach the Gospel, we need to have grace and preach the true good news.



We need to prepare and be ready , we will have an evangelism and prayer tent ready for new believers and show them God's Love.