

**Another “Gospel” Series
(A Concerned Apostle)**

1.18.23

I. An Introduction Galatians 1:1-5

Paul, an apostle—not from men or by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised him from the dead—² and all the brothers who are with me:

To the churches of Galatia.

³ Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord^[a] Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. ⁵ To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**II. The turning away
Galatians 1:6-10**

⁶ I am amazed that you are so quickly turning away from him who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷ not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are troubling 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 what we have preached to you, a curse be on him!^[a] ⁹ As we have said before, I now say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, a curse be on him!

¹⁰ For am I now trying to persuade people,^[a] or God? Or am I striving to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Turned to another ‘gospel’

The gospel was diluted

They had the real gospel

There were two ways to dilute the gospel

Legalism Gal 5:2-4 Take note! I, Paul, am telling you that if you get yourselves circumcised, Christ will not benefit you at all. ³ Again I testify to every man who gets himself circumcised that he is obligated to do the entire law. ⁴ You who are trying to be justified by the law are alienated from Christ; you have fallen from grace.

Liberalism Jude 4 For some people, who were designated for this judgment long ago,^[a] have come in by stealth; they are ungodly, turning the grace of our God into sensuality and denying Jesus Christ, our only Master and Lord.

Dt 4:2 You must not add anything to what I command you or take anything away from it, so that you may keep the commands of the LORD your God I am giving you.

12:32

Be careful to do everything I command you; do not add anything to it or take anything away from it.

They were lead astray

Acts 14:19 Some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and when they won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰ After the disciples gathered around him, he got up and went into the town. The next day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.

II John ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your home, and do not greet him; ¹¹ for the one who greets him shares in his evil works.

III. A reminder of the opinion that matters on the matter!

Galatians 1:10

¹⁰ For am I now trying to persuade people,¹⁰ or God? Or am I striving to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

IV. Application ...So many churches and individuals are turning.

By Alisa Childers

Signs of Progressivism

5 Signs Your Church Might be Heading Toward Progressive Christianity

1. A lower view of the Bible
 - “The Bible is a human book.”
 - “The apostle Paul was wrong about that.”
 - “The biblical authors simply didn’t understand sexuality as we do.”
 - “The Bible merely contains the Word of God (as opposed to the Bible *is the Word of God*).”
2. Feelings over facts – A person’s feelings become the ultimate authority and practice.
 - “That Scripture verse just doesn’t resonate with me.”
 - “I thought homosexuality was a sin until I met and befriended some gay people.”
 - “Jesus just wouldn’t send people to hell.”
3. Essential Christian doctrines open for reinterpretation – John Pavlovitz said, “There are no sacred cows [in Progressive Christianity] . . . Tradition, dogma, and doctrine are all fair game, because all pass through the hands of flawed humanity.”
 - “The resurrection of Jesus doesn’t have to be factual to be true.”
 - “The church’s position on sexuality is culture-bound, but the trajectory of Scripture teaches us to accept all sexual expressions.”
 - “Hell is the life we live here as inauthentic persons.”
4. Historic terms are inaccurately redefined.
 - “God would never punish sinners – he is love!”
 - “Sure, the bible is authoritative, but we’ve misunderstood it for the first two thousand years of church history.”
 - “It’s not our job to talk to anyone about their sin; it’s our job just to love them.”
5. The heart of the gospel message shifts from sin and redemption to social justice.
 - “All people are basically good.”

- “God doesn’t require the death of Jesus for our sins – it would be unjust for God to have allowed Jesus to be killed for the sins we committed.”
- “We don’t need to preach the gospel – we just need to show love by bringing justice to the oppressed and provision to the needy.”