



February 18, 2024 | Pastor Clay Carlson

Title: “In Defense of Truth”

Text: Galatians 2:1-5

Introduction

- Within 20 years of the church’s beginnings, false teachers were on the verge of destroying the true gospel!
- Paul understood that truth was under attack and engaged in defending the truth of the gospel.

Philippians 1:17b *“I am set for the defence of the gospel.”*

I. Paul's _____ at Jerusalem (vs. 1-2)

A. The _____ for the Journey

1. To settle a doctrinal _____ (Acts 15)

Described in Acts 15 -known as the “Jerusalem Council”

“Your _____ Determines Your _____”

2. _____ instructed the journey (vs. 2)

“One of God's priorities is that the churches would know true doctrine.”

3. The churches were in danger of _____ because of false doctrine (vs. 2)

B. His _____ Partners

-Barnabas and Titus, both faithful servants of Christ

C. His Message: Salvation by _____ Alone (vs. 2)

“Salvation has always been Jesus + _____”

II. _____ of the True Gospel in Titus (vs. 3)

A. The _____ of Titus

-The term "Greek" was often used in a broader sense to include all Gentiles in comparison to the Jews.

-Titus was of great help to Paul later at the Corinthian church, and toward the end of Paul's life Titus was still faithfully serving Christ.

Titus 1:4-5 “4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. 5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:”

2 Timothy 4:10 “For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, **Titus unto Dalmatia.**”

B. The _____ of Titus (vs. 3)

Paul makes special note when addressing the Galatian believers that when Titus (a Gentile convert to Christ) went to Jerusalem, he saw no need to submit to the Mosaic law and be circumcised.

Acts 15:10 “Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?”

-Titus was a true Christian who did not need to prove a point by being circumcised.

-Titus was living proof that circumcision was not a requirement to be saved therefore the Judaizers taught a false gospel.

III. The Dangers of _____ “Brethren” (vs. 4-5)

Paul refers to them as “false brethren” which means:

1. They were not saved -“false”
2. They claimed to be saved -“brethren”

A. Their _____ is False (vs. 4)

-The Judaizers claimed the grace of Christ, but they tainted it with the works of the law.

-They tried to compel people that true salvation is found in Jesus+circumcision (vs. 3 & Acts 15)

Galatians 5:2-4 “2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.”

“_____ doctrine brings _____ bondage”

B. Their _____ are Subtle (vs 4)

-They were brought in “unawares”

-They came in without the church knowing that they were false teachers with a false doctrine.

2 Corinthians 11:3 “But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

C. Their Goal is _____ (vs. 4)

-The Judaizer's perception on grace and the law brought bondage, not liberty. However, Paul's message from Christ brought liberty in two ways: from the law and from sin's penalty.

Romans 8:2 *“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”*

2 Peter 2:19 *“While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”*

“If the truth sets you free, then lies keep you in bondage.”

D. Their Presence Should be _____ (vs. 5)

-As soon as they discovered they were false brethren, they forsake them immediately.

2 Thessalonians 3:6 *“Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.”*

Conclusion

Paul boldly defended the true Gospel and proved that salvation is by faith alone and not the law.

The truth is worth defending!