

There Is No Other Gospel

Dr. Michael A. Cox

Original: 8-22-86; Revised: 7-24-05; 11-23-13; 12-21-25

Text: Galatians 1:6-10

Galatians: [Bibliography](#) or [Manuscripts and Greek Exegesis](#)

UBS 4th Edition Paragraph Topic: There Is No Other Gospel

Central Idea of Message: Paul chides the Galatians for abandoning the gospel of grace for another gospel and issues a curse upon all who proclaim any other gospel except the one he and the apostles preach.

Introduction: After defending his credibility as an apostle of Jesus Christ, Paul wastes little time in rebuking the Galatian Christians for their instability regarding the doctrine of grace. He chides them for abandoning the gospel of grace for another gospel and issues a curse upon all who proclaim any other gospel except the one he and the apostles preach.

I. Deserting the Gospel of Grace (vv. 6-7)

A. Abandoning the gospel of grace (v. 6)

- 1. Paul equated abandoning the gospel of grace with changing sides on God**
 - a) Paul was amazed that the Galatians were so quickly forsaking the sufficiency of grace
 - (1) So soon after their conversion
 - (2) So soon after his visit there
 - b) **Never desert the truth!**
- 2. Paul had great expectations of the Galatians**
 - a) He believed that they were well-rooted in the basics of Christianity
 - b) He felt that the all-sufficiency of God's grace through Christ was so plain to them that they should never abandon it
 - c) People often disappointed the great apostle and will disappoint us as well
 - d) The seed of the gospel sometimes falls in shallow dirt, springs up rapidly, and then fades under the heat of the sun
- 3. The Galatians were too easily discarding the gospel of grace for another gospel: Ramtha**

channeler J. Z. Knight was raised a Baptist and became offended over preaching about hell

B. **There is only one true gospel (v. 7)**

1. **There is only one true gospel and it is the good news of God's provision of grace through the shed blood of Jesus Christ**
2. Any so-called gospel which alters in any way the all-sufficiency of God's grace is *disturbing*
3. Any so-called gospel which alters in any way the all-sufficiency of God's grace is a *distortion*
 - a) Adding baptism to grace as necessary for salvation distorts the gospel
 - b) Adding law to grace as necessary for salvation distorts the gospel
 - c) Adding works to grace as necessary for salvation distorts the gospel
 - (1) If salvation could be achieved by works, one would never know how many good works to do to be saved or stay saved
 - (2) Any so-called gospel (good news) which teaches salvation by works is no good news at all!
4. The fact that there is only one true gospel emphasizes that it is unique and timeless, being completely sufficient for all eras
5. Any gospel differing from Paul's gospel is false, and it is amazing to see that Paul's gospel is identical to that of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Peter, the writer of Hebrews, James, and Jude

II. **Denouncing Preachers of Another Gospel (vv. 8-10)**

A. **Let anyone preaching another gospel be accursed (v. 8)!**

1. Regardless of his or her position in the church: an apostle, a priest, a pastor, a Sunday School teacher, a deacon
2. Regardless of alleged supernatural encounters
 - a) Vision, dream, epiphany, theophany, angelophany
 - b) Angels are even higher in rank than apostles and such an encounter would constitute a revelation
 - c) **Paul vehemently warns that the true gospel of grace will never be altered by God and therefore must never be altered by man**

- (1) Was Paul overreacting to a slight modification of the gospel?
- (2) Were not the Judaizers saying basically the same thing as Paul?
- (3) Were not the Judaizers preaching Christ crucified and risen?
- (4) Were not the Judaizers proclaiming grace through faith?

3. **Satan vigorously deceives and distorts!**

- a) **By penetrating the ranks of Christianity with false teachers**
- b) **By promoting Universalism (teaching that everyone is going to be saved)**
- c) **By peddling religious Pluralism (teaching that all religions lead to some sort of eternal bliss)**
- d) **By producing counterfeit spiritual experiences, allegedly with angels, spirits, or dead people**
 - (1) Muhammad (570 - 630) said he received the Koran in Arabic from the angel Gabriel
 - (2) Joseph Smith, Jr. (1805 - 1844) was led in visions by an angel named Moroni to discover a book inscribed on golden plates, and two stones, the Urim and Thummim, which would enable him to translate the hieroglyphic-like writings on the plates
 - (3) Modern channeler Sylvia Browne (1936-2013)

4. **Paul pronounces anathema on anyone preaching another gospel, including himself**

- a) Let them be set aside for destruction!
- b) Let them be eternally alienated from God!
- c) Let them go to hell!

5. The effect of such strong language by the wiry apostle was to say that the Judaizers were hell-bound

B. **Just in case anyone misunderstood Paul's previous sentence, he repeated it (v. 9)!**

1. But strengthened his charge by shifting from the mood of possibility (subjunctive) to the mood of actuality (indicative)

2. Christians should be zealous guardians of the purity of the gospel of grace

C. **Paul had been accused of sacrificing the truth to please people (v. 10)**

1. Paul boldly asks if anyone still thinks he is trying to gain favor with man
 - a) Paul sharply challenges his readers to accuse him now of pleasing men
 - b) **Paul was most concerned with being on good terms with God, not man**
 - c) **It is unwholesome for any Christian to be inconsistent in speech and conduct, especially in an effort to charm**
 - d) Saying one thing to some and the opposite to others is hypocrisy
 - e) Although probably accused of saying one thing to Jews and another to Gentiles in order to increase his popularity, Paul was not guilty
 - f) Paul was no flatterer, he was intent on preserving truth, not on increasing his approval ratings
2. Paul knew that he would anger people if he preached the unique gospel of grace
 - a) Because he knew that the nature of man is to reject grace and rely on works
 - b) Because he knew that the nature of man is to depend on oneself rather than depend on God
3. Paul argues that those seeking to please men cannot please God and cannot be God's servants
 - a) **Why is it that God's true servants always found themselves in hot water with people?**
 - b) Was the problem with the servants themselves or with the people?
 - c) We deceive ourselves if we do not acknowledge that the problem was with the people
 - d) How can we avoid making their mistakes?
 - (1) By reading God's word for ourselves
 - (2) By receiving the gospel of grace for ourselves
 - (3) By resisting the influence of our fleshly nature
 - (4) By yielding ourselves to the Holy Spirit
 - (5) By standing against the coercions of popular culture

4. Paul vowed not to alter his doctrine of salvation either to gain favor or avoid fury

Conclusion: Illustration. Are you embracing, living, and defending the true gospel of grace?