



Introduction to Galatians (Part 2)

Galatians 1:6-10

Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor

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Galatians 1:6-10 teaches the necessity of standing firm against any distortion of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The local church must be committed to God's gospel and ready to expose and rebuke false teaching that lures people toward becoming spiritual traitors.

Background (Galatians 1:1-5)

We must know the true gospel of Jesus Christ. It is God's gospel, planned by the Father, accomplished by the Son through the sacrifice of Himself for sinners, applied by the Spirit, and confirmed by the resurrection. It is a gospel that rests wholly on God's grace, and it leads to peace with God.

1. Recognize the danger

Counterfeits typically contain elements of the true gospel.

The counterfeit gospel in Galatia used God's gospel and the finished work of Christ as an entrance exam, while making obedience to the Mosaic law to be the real test of a person's justification (cf. Acts 15:1-2)

The counterfeit gospel in Galatia was...

- Different
- Distorting
- Deserting God

2. Refute the danger

- Paul was astonished/agitated to the point of action.
- We must love God more than the approval of man.

Questions to Consider

1. Read Matthew 7:15-20; Mark 13:22-23; 2 Corinthians 11:3-11; and 2 Peter 2:1-3. Summarize God's wisdom on the threat of false teachers and their traits.
2. What are some themes that seem to arise in modern distortions of the gospel?
3. What are necessary elements of the gospel that cannot be diminished or replaced?
4. How were Jewish teachers distorting the gospel of Jesus Christ as they taught Gentile believers?
5. How did Paul use the imagery of desertion, or being a traitor, to make his point in Galatians 1:6?
6. Have you been close to someone who professed faith in Christ, but who walked away from the gospel? How have you responded to that person? Has fear of man ever kept you from speaking up in such an instance?
7. Does Matthew 7:1 mean we should never confront/refute someone who is undermining the gospel of Jesus Christ or deserting the truth? Why or why not?