

Galatians Handout

Week Nineteen

Review:

Judaizers: believe in Jesus and obey God's law and then

Paul/true gospel: Believe in Jesus and you'll be saved and then

11 I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored (toiled/wearied myself) over you in vain.

Does Paul believe you can lose your salvation?

Jn. 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

Phil. 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

2 Tim. 1:12 But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me/what I have entrusted to Him.

What is Paul concerned about then?

Is salvation a one time thing?

12 I *beg* of you, brethren, become as I am, for I also have become as you are.

The irony:

The passion/heartbreak: Beg/plead

The connection: Brethren

The plea (which is really a command): Become as I am

What does Paul have that the Galatians don't have that he insists they have?

The experience of freedom

--Free of external, man-made or even God made rules or expectations.

1 Cor. 9:19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

Best example—

--Free from the judgement of others and self-condemnation or insecurity

1 Cor. 4:4 This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.

1 Cor. 4:12 When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we entreat

1 Cor.4:12 I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

--Free from everything else in the world!

Phil. 3:7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection (anastasis) and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection (exanastasis) from the dead.

Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Phil. 4:11 I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

The motivation to follow: become as I am, *for I as you*.

Contextualization

-Removing any unnecessary impediments to the gospel without compromising truth

1 Cor. 1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,

*This is no easy task!

The quintessential example of contextualization—

Mark 5 :1 *They* came to the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gerasenes. When *He* got out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met *Him*,

-Constructing language and stories and platforms that make the way of salvation easier to understand.

...You have done *me* no wrong;

...*You* have done me no wrong;

3 but you know that it was because of a bodily illness that I preached the gospel to you the first time; and that which was a trial to you in my bodily condition you did not despise or loathe/reject, but you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus Himself.

Because of the bodily illness

What does this say?

-Ministry

-Rather than being an impediment

-We never really know

How the Galatians responded

-Their lack of rejection of Paul was miraculous

-Their acceptance of his message was miraculous.

15 What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. 16 Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth?

Why are they upset with Paul?

The fact that he isn't accusing them indicates what?

More lessons about ministry

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Why would people reject the truth?

17 They (the Judaizers) are zealous for you/make much of you (court you like a girlfriend), but not in a good way. They want to shut you out (turn you away from me and from freedom) so that you will be zealous for them/make much of them. 18 Zeal is great. Being made much of is great but only for good reasons, and not only when I am present with you.

Love bombing and isolation.

More irony...

Lies over truth.

Inclusion that excludes.

Flash over substance.

What would Jesus say? He would be even more direct

Mat. 23:15 You travel about on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

Mat. 7:15 Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.

Zeal

Application-

19 My children, with whom I am again in labor until Christ is formed in you— 20 but I could wish to be present with you now and to change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

Application-

Application

Jn. 15:18 “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of my name

Why was it Paul could keep preaching come what may?

Rom. 8:33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Discussion

Recognize and pray for the people who labored to see Christ formed in you.