

Paul, an apostle—not from men or by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised him from the dead—¹ and all the brothers who are with me:

To the churches of Galatia.

² Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, “who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.”³ To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

No Other Gospel

⁴ 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—⁵ not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are troubling you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.⁶ 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!⁷ 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!

⁸ For am I now trying to persuade people, 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.

SET FREE



The Origin of Paul's Gospel

⁹ 4:1 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel preached by me is not of human origin.¹⁰ For I did not receive it from a human source and I was not taught it, but it came by a revelation of Jesus Christ.

¹¹ For you have heard about my former way of life in Judaism: I intensely persecuted God's church and tried to destroy it.¹² I advanced in Judaism beyond many contemporaries among my people, because I was extremely zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.¹³ But when God, who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, was pleased¹⁴ to reveal his Son in me, so that I could preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone.¹⁵ I did not go up to Jerusalem to those who had become apostles before me; instead I went to Arabia and came back to Damascus.

¹⁶ Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to get to know Cephas, and I stayed with him fifteen days.¹⁷ But I did not see any of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.¹⁸ I declare in the sight of God: I am not lying in what I write to you.

¹⁹ Afterward, I went to the regions of Syria and Cilicia.²⁰ I remained personally unknown to the Judean churches that are in Christ.²¹ They simply kept hearing, “He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith he once tried to destroy.”²² And they glorified God because of me.

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Galatians 1-2

Paul's Passion for the True _____.

Two Approaches to Experiencing God's Power: _____.

Salvation is by _____ alone, through _____ alone in _____ alone!

Galatians 3-4

We are not only saved by the Gospel, but we continue to _____ by the Gospel.

“ You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard?³ Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?⁴ Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain?⁵ So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?”

~ GALATIANS 3:1-5 (NIV)

Two Arguments To Show That We Grow By Faith

“ He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

~ PHILIPPIANS 1:6b (NIV)

1. You received the Holy Spirit _____, Not Works.

- See Acts 2:1-4
- Christian Character is the fruit of the _____. *Galatians 5:22-23*

2. We become _____ by faith.

So also Abraham *“believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”* (Gen. 15:6)

“ Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. ⁸ Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘All nations will be blessed through you.’ ⁹ So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

¹⁰ For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: ‘Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.’ ¹¹ Clearly, no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because ‘the righteous will live by faith.’ ”

~ GALATIANS 3:7-11 (NIV)

Abraham was considered righteous because of his _____ .

SO WHAT?

Communion is a time to remember and celebrate the finished work of Christ. Let us *“fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter (finisher) of faith”*. (Heb. 12:2)

DISCUSSION Questions:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS available on the APP |       Google TV

- 1 - This week's message contrasts two approaches to spiritual power: "DO" vs. "DONE." How would you describe the difference and where do you tend to lean in your own life?
- 2 - Read Galatians 3:1-3. Paul challenges the Galatians for starting by faith but trying to "finish by the flesh." What are some practical ways we fall into that same pattern today?
- 3 - The message emphasizes that both salvation and growth (sanctification) come through faith. Why do you think it's so tempting to rely on our own effort for spiritual growth?
- 4 - The Holy Spirit is described as the true source of spiritual power. What does it look like, in everyday life, to depend on the Spirit rather than on your own strength?
- 5 - Abraham is given as an example of faith. Which aspect of his trust in God stands out to you most, and how might God be calling you to a similar kind of trust right now?
- 6 - The message ended with the invitation to "fix your eyes on Jesus and believe." What is one specific area of your life where you need to shift from striving to trusting this week?

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SPRING CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

TONIGHT | MAY 3RD | 5:00PM
SUNDAY EVENING IN THE CHAPEL

WILLIAM JESSUP UNIVERSITY CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

CONCERT | TONIGHT | 6:30PM

