

Galatians - Chapter 2:4-7 Paul's Gospel –Nothing Added

Holly Hills Bible Church – June 8, 2025

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¹ Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also. 2 It was because of a revelation that I went up; and I submitted to them the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but I did so in private to those who were of reputation, for fear that I might be running, or had run, in vain. 3 But not even Titus, who was with me, though he was a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised.

1) Paul's concern was *not* that his gospel was incorrect, but that his gospel teaching would be made "*vain*" or *unfruitful* if his spiritual children were put under the bondage of law.





How would it render Paul's ministry "vain" if false teachers were able to convince Christians that they were under law?

- The Christian is dead to the law. (Rom 6:14; 7:4)
- But the sin nature uses the law as a springboard. (Rom 7:8,13)
- Paul knew that a Christian under the law can only produce the deeds of the flesh and not the fruit of the Spirit.

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2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for <u>teaching</u>, for <u>reproof</u> (rebuke), for <u>correction</u>, for <u>training in righteousness</u>;

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Galatians 2:4-7 (NASB)

⁴ But *it was* because of the false brethren secretly brought in, who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us into bondage. ⁵ But we did not yield in subjection to them for even an hour, so that the truth of the gospel would remain with you. ⁶ But from those who were of high reputation (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—well, those who were of reputation contributed nothing to me. ⁷ But on the contrary, seeing that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter *had been* to the circumcised...

Verse 9

and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we *might go* to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

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1 Samuel 16:7

Matthew 7:15

Matthew 23:25



What makes someone a "false brother?"

A "false brother" is someone who has never put their faith in Jesus Christ. Someone who has never been born again.



How did these "false brethren" get into the Church and why?



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They come in to "spy out" the Church's liberty.

With the purpose of putting the Church under the bondage of that law.



What was Satan's first attack on the Church?



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To try to snuff it out of <u>existence</u>.



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To try to snuff it out of existence.

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He does so through the lie that the Church is under law. The <u>very</u> thing that will activate the flesh!

Has this approach of Satan been effective?



What exactly is our "liberty in Christ?"

Our liberty is freedom from everything which formerly enslaved us. (Sin, Self, the Law, the World)



This was a critical moment in the development of the Church.

The doctrine of grace was preserved because, by grace, Paul did not yield to the bondage of the law.

The Lord allowed the other apostles to grasp the validity of what Paul was telling them, the Church was able to become unified on the doctrine of grace early on.



There is **no excuse** for **any** pastor, teacher, or theologian who teaches that the Church is under law!



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By God's grace we will continue to declare the plain Word of God concerning the liberty that we have in Christ Jesus.