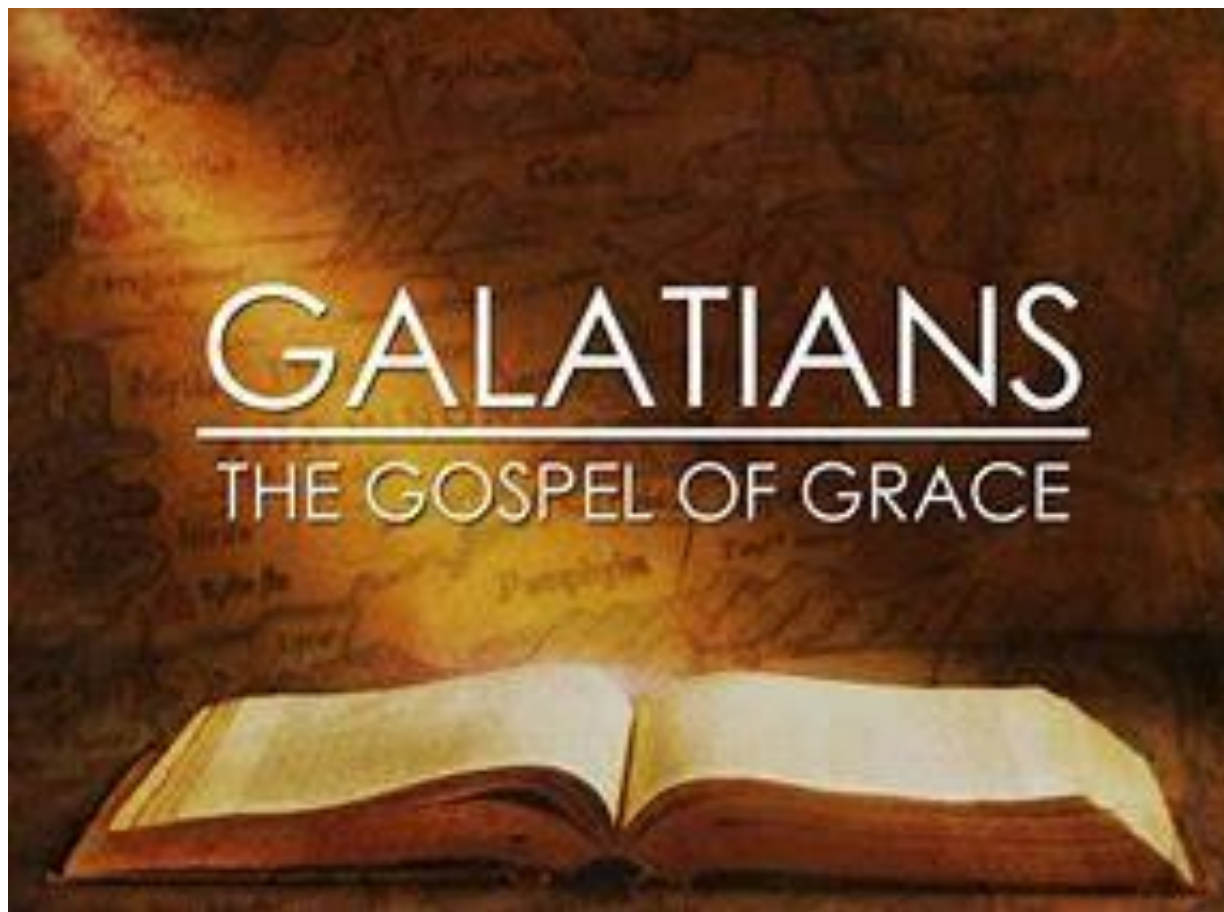




Gal 1:7b-9 Galatians' Defection: Its Gravity



Galatians 1:6 - 9



⁶ I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;

⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

Review from last week



6 I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; (NASU)

6 I marvel that so quickly you are being turned from the one having called you by the grace of Christ to a different gospel (*Interlinear*)

- the Galatians are turning from one thing to another
- from: lit: called you in the sphere of Christ's grace
- to: "a different sort" gospel

Review from last week (cont.)



⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

which is really not another

- the different gospel is not “another of the same sort”
- the “same sort” would be in sphere of Christ’s grace

⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.



Now who are “the some” (certain ones) who are disturbing you and distorting the Gospel?

⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some
who are disturbing you and want to distort the
gospel of Christ.



“some” have various names: Judaizers, legalists,
false teachers

who are disturbing you

disturbing - *tarassō* - to stir up, to trouble, agitate
with words – mental agitation
and emotional turmoil

present tense continuous action

same word used in John 12:27 when Christ foretells
his death

7 which is *really* not another; only there are some
who are disturbing you and want to distort the
gosp



Acts 15:23-24 - Letter about some who disturb

²³ and they sent this letter by them,
"The apostles and the brethren who
are elders, to the brethren in Antioch and Syria
and Cilicia who are from the Gentiles,
greetings. ²⁴ "Since we have heard that
some of our number
(a) to whom we gave no instruction
(b) have disturbed you with *their* words,
(c) unsettling your souls,

⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.



and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

want - lit: are desiring – a willful act!

distort - *metastrephō* - "to transform into something of an opposite character"

lit: to make something totally different from what it once was

Acts 2:20a The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood,

James 4:9 Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.

⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of C



How can the Gospel be distorted?

1. Denying that Christ really died (swoon theory)
2. Rejecting what Scripture says
3. Misunderstanding its content
 - believing Christ died as an example
 - believing Christ died as a martyr
4. Adding conditions other than faith
(what the Judaizers/legalists do!)

⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, **(then)** he is to be accursed!



Now verses 8 and 9 will show us God's attitude toward anyone adding something to the gospel!

Paul will use the strongest language in the New Testament in these verses



⁸ But even **if** we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, **(then)** he is to be accursed!

but even or but though

If we, or an angel from heaven

we - Paul includes himself

his team - Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, etc.

an angel from heaven - for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.
2 Cor 11:14b



⁸ But even **if** we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, **(then)** he is to be accursed!

should preach a gospel - *euangelizō* - used of "the good news" about Christ proclaimed in the gospel

present tense, subjunctive mood (mode of probability)

to you (Galatians)

contrary – other than, more than or that goes beyond

evangelized you beyond that which we evangelized you (Wuest)

remember: v:7 says they transform the gospel of Christ into something of an opposite character



⁸ But even **if** we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, (**then**) he is to be accursed!

what we have preached to you

what did Paul preach to them?

gospel in the narrow sense

- 1 Cor 15:3-5 – Christ died, He was buried, He was raised, He appeared

gospel in the broad sense

- Paul's teaching on a Christian's walk (life)
- The 13 epistles of Paul is the believer's standard of truth for living the Christian life

⁸ But even **if** we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, (then) he is to be accursed!



(then) he is to be accursed!

accursed - *anathema* - cursed or condemned; being given over or devoted to divine condemnation

Rom 9:3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh,

⁸ But even **if** we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, (**then**) he is to be accursed!



verse 8:

a 3rd class conditional sentence:

presents the condition as uncertain of fulfillment,
but still likely

Why would Paul and other believers want to
do this? (but it is possible!)

Holy angels could not, but fallen angels could
preach a contrary gospel

⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, **if** any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, **(then)** he is to be accursed!



As we have said before, so I say again

Paul is telling us he said this in the past and is still saying this in the present (perfect tense)

repeats the message of v:8 with these differences:

- any man - Judaizers, legalist, false teachers
- a gospel contrary to what you (Galatians) received
- focus before was on preaching vs. receiving
- 1st Class – assumed true for sake of argument

same results: he is to be accursed