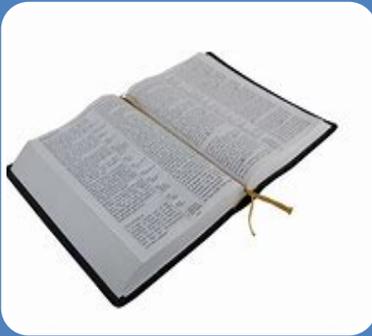


# ***Perverting The Gospel Of Christ***



Galatians 1:6-9

- **1** Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—
- **2** and all the brothers who are with me, To the churches of Galatia:
- **3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
- **4** who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,
- **5** to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

- 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—
- 7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. (cf. II Cor. 2:17; II Pet. 3:16)
- 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.
- 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

- 10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.
- 11 For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel.
- 12 For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

## Galatians 2:1-4

- **1** Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me.
- **2** I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain.
- **3** But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.
- **4** Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—
- **5** to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. (cf. 2:14; 3:1; 4:16; 5:7)

## Observations...

- #1 → Note the culturally (politically/religiously) incorrect nature of this text in the eyes a post-modern and pluralistic society.
- #2 → The searing statement that those who were preaching a different gospel other than that they had received from Paul were “accursed”—anathema → damned, condemned to hell.  
(NET)
- #3 → The gospel is not to be tampered with -- eternal destinies hinge on that proposition.

- #4 → This text should produce in us joy, astonishment, indignation and determination.
  - (1:3-4) Sense of joy over the grace and peace from God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Over His sacrifice that delivers us from this present evil age.
  - (1:6) Sense of astonishment over those who embrace or would leave Christ for a perverted gospel.
  - (1:7-9; 5:7-12) Sense of righteous indignation over false teaching/teachers that lead others astray, along with a determination to teach the truth. (Jude 3; Phil. 1:17)
- #5 → We can't read these verses, take them to heart and then be flippant, careless or casual in our handling of the scriptures. (II Tim. 2:15)

*Some Popular Perversions Of The Gospel*

- ***The church is not important.*** 
  - (Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28; 2:47; Eph. 5:23; 1:22-23)
- ***It does not matter how we worship God.*** 
  - (Jn. 4:24; Col. 2:23; Eph. 5:19)
- ***One is justified by faith only.*** 
  - (Jn. 3:16, 36; Jn. 12:42-43; Js. 2:24, 26; Acts 16:31-34)
- ***Baptism is not essential for salvation.*** 
  - (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; I Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:26-27; I Pet. 3:21)
- ***Once saved, always saved.*** 
  - (Gal. 5:4; Heb. 3:12; I Cor. 9:27,  Pet. 1:3-11)