

“Galatians 1:6-24”

All Scripture is KJV: Galatians 1:6-24

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

Today we continue with the preaching series on the Book of Galatians.

Galatians addresses the issues of following after Jesus for salvation and not following after the Jewish Laws and fables for salvation.

In the Epistle written to the Galatians Paul addresses many issues relating to salvation.

He refutes and exposes the false way of salvation, brings those people to task who teach the wrong way of salvation.

He exposes the Jews for their lies and rebukes them for trying to get Christians to return to the way of the law which was never able to save.

The book of Galatians is a very interesting and an eye opener to those who preach a different gospel.

It also encourages those in Jesus Christ to remain true and faithful and to hold to the faith that was once delivered unto them by the word of God through the Prophets and Apostles.

- In Acts Chapter 9 we read about the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. A man who was originally hostile to the people of God. A man who tried to destroy the very churches of God. A man who was a very zealous Jew, and a man who lived his religion to the letter of the law.
- But God was greater than Saul, and began a work in him to which the church would eventually prosper with a convert who was totally committed to Jesus Christ as his saviour.

A man that God would use as an apostle who would author at least 13 books of the NT and 14 if you count that he may have written Hebrews as well.

From Verses 1-5 the apostle Paul sets up and confirms his office as that of an apostle received by God. And now from verses 6-24 he establishes the truth that God has given him to tell to rebuke the church of Galatia and also those that are following after another gospel.

- **He begins with a rebuke in the form of a statement as he settles in to reprimand them of the consequences of not following after Jesus Christ alone.**
- **All though the book of Galatians there are three things that Paul hammers home.**
 1. Works based salvation - Salvation is by faith alone.
 2. Exposes the Jews for their lies about the law saving. Jewdiasers, trying to get Christians to follows Jewish customs, feasts days etc..
 3. People trying to please people rather than pleasing God.

- In many churches today they still teach a works based salvation in many different forms, which sounds true but it is not.

So Paul uses the letter to the Galatians to correct this false teaching by the Jews, and hope that they will turn and follow only Jesus.

Look what he has to say. Beginning in Galatians 1 verse 6.

⁶ I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

¹⁰ For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

The questions Paul was asking the Galatians was this.

1. **For do I now persuade men, or God?**
 2. **or do I seek to please men?**
 3. Because Paul said if it was to please men.....which these religions are.....then Paul said "**I should not be the servant of Christ**".
- ❖ How is it then that there are pastors and teachers today, standing in the pulpits of God teaching these works based teachings for salvation.
 - ❖ Those pastors or teachers might not even see it as works based, but yet they are subtly saying that you need to be baptised to be saved, or you need to be a member of a church, or you need to come to church faithfully to show your salvation and then that means that you are saved?
 - ❖ How much of a lie are all those things I have just mentioned but yet they are preached by many churches today and even in Baptist churches.
 - ❖ And the reason for them teaching those things is because they want to increase the attendance by members just so that the money can increase every month in the offering plate and that translates to a better lifestyle for the preachers?

So according to the bible all these other movements and religions are not serving God. And this shows a hidden agenda by many of these people who preach and teach those false doctrines of salvation.

- ❖ So when you see these things in a church be careful. That's why Paul warned the Galatians with a strong rebuke. Because then man is serving himself.

So when Paul used the word marvel in verse 6, he used a word that they fully understood in its meaning. Because it is a word that they often used to describe a situation of almost being "unbelievable" in its outcome.

It is the same word used by John to describe salvation when he preached to the Jews in John 3:7

John 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

It is in this same context of understanding that Paul used to describe his “amazement” in their unbelief.

It was used also by Jesus when he spoke to the Jews of his day about the Word of God.

John 7:14-16 ¹⁴ Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught. ¹⁵ **And the Jews marvelled**, saying, **How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?** ¹⁶ Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

1. Just like the Apostle Paul, the doctrine that was given to him to reveal to the Galatians and other hearers, was not a doctrine of his own but it was the Word of God “revealed to him” through revelation.
2. So Paul used the context of revelation of God’s Word to be something that they had removed themselves from, having “known” that it was powerful unto salvation, just like John had revealed it as well to the Jews in John 3:7 to be born again.
3. Jesus used the same statement when addressing the lost Jews in his day when he said in **John 7:16 My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.**
4. So Paul makes this same claim in verse 11.

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

1. What we need to remember is that people are trying to discredit God (Jesus) all the time by saying things that are not true, or disregarding things that are true.
2. They will do almost anything to avoid the truth.
3. They will even change the word of God into a lie (NIV) to get around things that Jesus did not say.
4. The NIV and its associated text have done more than its fair share to disrupt Christianity in today’s society.

That is why Paul laid claim to God as his witness. As an Apostle (called by God). So that he could state with confidence verse 11.

5. The modern versions of Christianity all are manmade, and man preached.
6. Those modern versions of the gospel are also man inspired. And these modern versions of the gospel almost always lead to a “prosperity faith” preaching, and almost always lead to a money making gospel.

So when Paul came on the scene, he secures the “Word of God” by stating his position as one having been “called of God”.

7. And in Paul’s statement of truth he reminds them that the gospel which he had “preached” was not after man.

Yet preachers want to preach things today just because they are popular to say or because people want to hear the positive side of their life. None of them want to hear that they are sinners, and none of them want to know that in fact they have fallen short of Gods glory, and none of them want to think of themselves as a second class citizen.

None of them want to even believe that their little children are even sinners in need of salvation.

Instead what “society” has been raising for the last 50 years is a generation who don’t need God.

¹² For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1. Often people will question the bible and its authenticity.
2. Sometimes even Christians will question the bible, and even say that God is not just in condemning certain people to death or whatever the condemnation may be. This shows a lack of ignorance on their part, and it is always those people who “call themselves Christians” but have failed to read the bible in its entirety.
3. Instead it is these people who want to pass judgment on God, when they are ignorant themselves.
4. People have a natural tendency to embrace their own will, and this is the very will that can be used either to serve God or serve another, whether it is another gospel or another God.
5. Never the less it is this will of theirs that places them in a selected “category” that they have chosen for themselves.
6. This is the category of professing themselves to be “wise” they have become fools the bible speaks of.

Romans 1:21-23 ²¹ Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²² Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, ²³ And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

- Paul spoke under the inspiration of God, because the Bible says that all scripture is inspired.
- So if Paul spoke under the inspiration of God, then his claim here in verse 12 speaks for itself.

¹² For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1. Paul did not learn any of the gospel from any other man he said.
2. He also stated that neither was he taught it. So it was not something that he had learned either.
3. But that the gospel message was “communicated” to him by Jesus “revealing” it to him by “revelation”.
4. That’s what “revelation” means. It means it was something given by “God” (Jesus) to Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:20-21 ²⁰ Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹ For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

5. So the bible tells us that “all scripture” is given by the inspiration of God.
6. And that all scripture is doctrine. Which simply put scripture is doctrine. The conveyed word of God to man.

But yet.....

Paul had the Jewdiasers back in his day and we still have them today in the form of the Hebrew Roots movement. Which want to bring you back into the Law, and learn how to be a Jew. As if “being a Jew” can save you.

- What a “lot of rubbish” these people are teaching.
- Don’t fall for the Hebrew this and the Hebrew that jargon. There is nothing Hebrew about these people.
- These People are “Jews” not Hebrew Israelites.
- These people have disguised themselves cleverly to try and deliver you once again unto Satan.

Galatians is a letter of rebuke, to anyone who thinks that reentering into Judaism can somehow make them more spiritual, and turn the into a Christian believer.

- ✚ And let me add this. There is no such thing as a Christian Jew, or a Jewish Christian.
- ✚ You are either a Jew or a Christian. Because each one of them is a religion.
- Because the word Jew refers to a religion, it does not refer to an ethnic people.
- Yet people will use this statement of being against the Jews as being anti-Semitic. But here is nothing anti-Semitic here, because people are forgetting that “Jews” are not a people but simply refers to the religion that they are practicing.
- ❖ And in fact a Jew is nothing more than a Pharisee which is mentioned in the bible. They believe the same thing.
- ❖ Pharisee, *noun*, : **Pharisee**; plural noun: **Pharisees** a member of an ancient Jewish sect, distinguished by strict observance of the traditional and written law, and commonly held to have pretensions to superior sanctity.
 - a self-righteous or hypocritical person.
 - They are the spiritual fathers of modern Judaism.
 - Their main distinguishing characteristic was a belief in an Oral Law that God gave to Moses at Sinai along with the Torah.
 - The Pharisees believed that God also gave Moses the knowledge of what these laws meant and how they should be applied. This oral tradition was codified and written down roughly three centuries later in what is known as the Talmud.
- ❖ So the Jews are nothing more than Pharisees of the Bible. They are deniers of Jesus, and have a works based salvation message.
- ✚ So how can a person who is against a Jew be anti-Semitic against a religion?

- ✚ Judaism is a religion of Satan.
- ✚ It is of this religion that Paul spoke out against. And yet today we see a resurgence of this evil and wicked religion coming into the midst of Christianity and into our churches.
- ✚ Even using words like “shekinah glory” which does not exist in the KJV, but is word taken from the Talmud Satanic writing which means the “feminine side of god”.
- ✚ This is the god of Judaism but it is certainly not the God of the trinity.
- ✚ Yet it is this word that pastors are bringing into the modern churches today.
- ✚ How “foolish” are they, just like Paul said oh you “foolish Galatians” who has bewitched you?
- ✚ It is the Jews bewitching the church.

13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

1. Paul was once like that. And he uses these verses in Galatians 1:13-14 to show that he was wrong, and how that he pursued the church of God beyond measure and persecuted it as a result of the Jewish religion.
2. He tells of how once he was just as zealous as they were, but now God had opened up his eyes “literally” as the scales of religion dropped to the ground and he saw the light of the Gospel for the very first time.
3. So in these verses he tries to secure their attention, that if anyone was going to profit in the Jews religion it should have been him.
4. But nothing was of any profit in that religion. In fact he tells of how he “wasted” the church of God and how he persecuted it beyond measure. Which means you could not even measure how much he was against the church of God in the beginning.
5. Yet now he tells them..... “so.....is that what you want to be like.....do you want to persecute the church of God like I did.....do you think that following after some “Jewish custom” is somehow going to make you more “spiritual”.

14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

1. If Paul could not make it in the Jews religion, then he says nobody can.
2. Because he was more determined and zealous than everybody put together.
3. But he said.....God changed all that.....and turned him around to see the real truth of Jesus Christ.

15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, 16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

1. When Paul saw the truth he says he immediately knew it was not just a man made religion.
2. He said “**immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:**”
3. He knew it was God who had changed him.
4. He knew it was it was God who separated him, and called him into his grace.

5. He knew that is was God, who had revealed his Son unto him, that he might preach Jesus Christ to the heathen.

PRAYER.....CLOSE