

Questions, Questions!

Galatians 3:1-4

East Berlin Community Church
Pastor Keith A. Mosebrook
September 30, 2018

Introduction

- Challenge to *"There are no dumb questions, just dumb answers."*
- Asking questions is foundational to our education experience.
- Paul's genuine concern for the Christians in region of Galatia
- Paul dumbfounded over the Galatian's recent defection—1:6-7
- Paul defends his ministry and message—Galatians 1-2
- Paul probes the Galatians about their own experience of salvation.

Questions, Questions!

A. Question #1—The Source of their Defection? Gal. 3:1

1. Due to their "foolishness"
 - a. Not "moros" – mental deficiency, stupidity'
 - b. But "anotes"—mental laziness and carelessness
 - 1) Failure to believe—Luke 24:25-27
 - 2) Feeling rather facts—Ephesians 4:14
2. "Bewitched" by the Judaizers—2 Cor. 11:13-15
3. Prevention: They had experienced the powerful, transforming truth of the Gospel in the crucified Christ.

B. Question #2—The Reception of the Spirit? Gal. 3:2

1. Indwelling Spirit is inseparable from the new birth.
 - a. The Sign—Rom. 8:9, 16; 1 John 4:13
 - b. The Seal—Eph. 1:13-14
2. Spirit indwells at the moment of salvation—Acts 15:7-8; 10:43-45

C. Question #3—The Completion of your Faith? Gal. 3:3

1. The "flesh" cannot produce holiness of life.
 - a. It is weak, sinful—Romans 7:18
 - b. We lack the will-power and know-how! Romans 8:5-9
2. Balance: Faith that does not produce good works is not saving faith at all. It is "dead" faith.—James 2:14, 24
3. What makes a good work, "good"?
4. The Spirit completes what He has started in us. Phil. 1:6

D. Question #4—The Vanity of Suffering? Gal. 3:4

1. Paul experienced persecution in establishing the churches in Galatia.—Acts 13:50; 14:2, 5-6, 19
2. Paul warns them of suffering for Christ—Acts 14:21-22
3. Temptation—to revert back to the protection of Judaism in order to avoid suffering.—cp. Heb. 10:32-39
4. True believers persevere! They endure to the end!