

“Any Other Gospel”
Galatians 1:6-9

Introduction:

1. **IE:** Have You Ever Heard Someone Say:
 - “Well – That’s The Gospel Truth!”
 - Usually Someone Will Say That When:
 - They Are Challenged About What They Have Just Said!
 - Is It The Truth?
 - Or Is It A Lie?
 - And To Emphasize That It Is The Truth:
 - The Whole Truth & Nothing But The Truth!
 - They Might Say:
 - “Well – That’s The Gospel Truth!”
 - But Most Of The Time - It’s Not Really All That Reassuring, Is It?
2. But Why Would Someone Use That Phrase In The First Place?
 - Because:
 - “Gospel” & “Truth” Go Together!
 - It Is Such A Natural Thing!
 - Because The Gospel – The Good News Of Jesus Christ:
 - As Presented To Us In The New Testament:
 - Is Nothing But The Truth!
 - And The Churches Of Galatia:
 - Had Heard The “Gospel Truth” From:
 - The Apostle Paul Himself!
 - So - Let’s Head Back Over To The Book Of Galatians This Morning! Galatians 1!
 - Remember How Much Time & Effort & Even Pain Paul Spent:
 - In The Cities Of:
 - Antioch / Iconium / Lystra & Derbe?
 - Why? To Preach The “Gospel Truth” So That They Would Hear It, Believe & Be Saved!
 - The “Gospel Truth” Was So Important To Paul:
 - That Even At The Very Beginning Of His Letter To Them:
 - He Reminds Them Of It!
 - In Verses 3-4 He Wrote - “Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, / Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father!”
 - That’s The Gospel – The Good News Of Jesus – In A Very Compact Form!
 - 3. And There Is So Much Good News Right There!
 - Grace! Divine Favor That Is Undeserved!
 - Peace! With God & In Your Hearts!
 - Even A “Peace That Passeth All Understanding!”
 - Deliverance! From Sin & From All The Evils In This World!
 - So - We Are Surprised & Shocked Along With Paul:
 - When He Gets To The Main Reason He Is Writing This Letter In Verse 6!
 - Because In 1:6-9 We Read This:
 - “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: / Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. / But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. / As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed!”
 - Paul “Marveled” At Them!
 - That Is - He Was Surprised & Shocked:
 - At What Was Going On In Their Churches!
 - And This Morning:
 - As We Look More Closely At What Paul Was So Shocked About:
 - May We Have The Same Surprise & The Same Shock Over:

1. ***The Departure From The Gospel Truth!***

- Because This Is What Surprised & Shocked:
 - The Apostle Paul More Than Anything!
 - The Great Departure Of Those Galatian Churches From The “Gospel Truth!”
 - 1:6 - “I Marvel That Ye Are So Soon Removed!”
 - To Be “Removed” Here Means:
 - To Desert & To Change Their Trust & Their Loyalty From One Thing To Another!
 - **IE:** Remember Back In 2014, When Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl Was Finally Released From Captivity In Afghanistan After 5 Long Years? He Was Released On May 31, 2014 As Part Of A Prisoner Exchange For Five Taliban Members! Well - Within Just A Few Days, Stories Came Out From Some Of His Own Team-Members As To How He Was Captured In The First Place! They Pronounced Him As A Deserter, And Were Angry About His Release And Promotion As A Hero! And Although His Case Is Still Ongoing, It Was Recently Recommended That He Faced A Court-Martial!
 - But What Made His Release So Distasteful To His Previous Team?
 - Because Of His Departure / His Desertion From His Duty, From His Country, And From Them!
 - This Is What Was Happening In Those Churches Of Galatia!
 - And Their Departure / Desertion Was Of A Much More Critical Nature:
 - Than Even Bowe Berghdahls!
 - His Desertion Was From One Country:
 - To Another!
 - The Galatian’s Desertion Was From The Truth Of The Gospel:
 - And From God Himself!
 - You Can See Why The Apostle Paul “Marveled!”
 - And Was So Shocked & Mortified About What Was Taking Place In Their Churches!
 - He Was Shocked About:
- The Timing Of Their Departure!
 - About When They Left The Gospel Truth!
 - “I Marvel That Ye Are So Soon Removed!”
 - It Hadn’t Been All That Long When Paul & Barnabas Had Been With Them!
 - They Shared The Gospel!
 - They Discipled Them In The Faith!
 - And They Established Elders In Their Churches!
 - But Instead Of Delighting In The Truth:
 - And Their New-Found Freedom In Christ!
 - They Quickly Turned Back To The Husks Of Their Former Lives & Religions!
 - Paul Was Also Shocked At:
- The Treatment Of Their Departure!
 - About Why They Left The Gospel Truth!
 - Paul Was Not So Concerned About His Own:
 - Effort & Reputation Among Them!
 - But About God’s!
 - Look At How They Were Treating:
 - The Lord!
 - 1:6 - “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you!”
 - Who Called Them?
 - God Himself!
 - He Called Them Out Of Their Darkness:
 - And Into His Light!
 - But Now - They Were Trying To Scurry Back Into Their Darkness!
 - And Look At How They Were Treating:
 - The Lord’s Blessings!
 - 1:6 - “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ!”
 - The “Grace Of Christ!”
 - This Would Include:
 - All The Blessings & All The Benefits Of Having Jesus Christ In Their Lives!
 - Like The Blessings Of:
 - Justification / Peace / Pardon / Atonement / Wisdom / Strength / Joy / Comfort / And

Every Supply Of Grace / And Particularly Fellowship With Him – Nothing Which Is More Desirable! (Gill)

- And Yet - They Were Turning Their Backs:
 - To All Of These Good Things!
 - And Strapping Their Burdens Onto Their Backs Once Again!
- Why Would They Do This?
 - Why Would They Leave The Gospel Truth?
 - Why Would They Treat The Lord And All Of His Blessings In This Way?
 - He Was Further Shocked At:
- The Temptation Of Their Departure!
 - About What Caused Them To Leave The Gospel Truth!
 - “Unto Another Gospel!”
 - Which In 1:7 Paul Quickly Adds:
 - “Which Is Not Another!”
 - There Was Something Else:
 - Being Taught & Being Believed:
 - Within Those Churches:
 - That Somehow, Someway Were Tempting & Luring Them Away From The “Gospel Truth!”
 - What Could Possibly Be Better News:
 - Than That Which They Had Already Received?
 - Paul Asserts That There Is Nothing Better Than The Gospel Truth That Had Formed Their Churches To Begin With!
 - **IE:** Its Like Being Lured Away From A Luscious Cherry Pie By A Mud-Pie, Which Has Absolutely No Nutritional Value Or Taste! There Is No Comparison!
 - This Is Why Paul “Marveled” At Them!
 - Why He Was So Surprised & Shocked!
 - And Why We Should Be To!
 - However - We Also Need To Remember What Paul Wrote:
 - In 1 Corinthians 10:12 - “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall!”
 - We May Think:
 - How Could Those Galatians Do This?
 - How Could They Desert The Very Gospel By Which They Were Saved?
 - How Could They Depart So Quickly?
 - How Could They Treat The Lord & All Of His Blessings So Lightly?
 - How Could They Be Tempted By Something That Has No Spiritually Nutritious Value?
 - Yet - How Often Are We:
 - “Charmed By The World’s Delights” Ourselves?
 - Not Only Should We Be Shocked At The Departure Of Others From The Gospel Truth!
 - But We Need To Be Shocked:
 - At Our Own Potential To Be Lured Away From The Glories Of The Gospel Truth!
 - And Pray That The Lord Will Keep Us:
 - From Those Kinds Of Temptations!
 - Because Every Christian & Every Church Needs To: “Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak!” (Matthew 26:41)
 - But We Also See In 1:7 - That Paul Was Shocked / Surprised By:

2. ***The Deception From The Gospel Truth!***

- 1:7 - “But there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ!”
 - What We Find Here Is:
- A Warning Of Deception!
 - “But There Be Some!”
 - Even As Jesus Himself Warned Us!
 - In Matthew 7:15 - “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves!”
 - And In Matthew 10:16 - “Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves!”
 - “But There Be Some” Paul Says!

- And We Need To Be Alert To & Aware Of:
 - Those Who Will Try To Draw Us Away From The Gospel Truth!
- This Is Still A Very Valid Warning!
 - Some Of These:
 - May Have Great Personalities & Tell Great Stories On The Radio Or TV!
 - Some Of These:
 - May Be Well-Known Authors Who Have Great Skill With Their Pens!
 - Some Of These:
 - May Be Even Close To You Personally & Within Your Church!
 - And We Need To Be So Grounded In The Gospel Truth:
 - That We Will Not Be Led Away & Led Astray By These “Some!”
 - Because They Will Seek:
- To Worry With Deception!
 - “But There Be Some That Trouble You!”
 - “Trouble” Here Means To Agitate & To Cause Unrest!
 - Where The Gospel Truth Brings Peace, “Any Other Gospel” Tends To Bring Worry!
 - How Can We Be “Troubled”?
 - Through Doctrines:
 - That Are Not Founded On The Word Of God Alone!
 - Jesus Warned Of This In Mark 7:7 - “Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men!”
 - Through Disputes:
 - Arguments & Sowing Discord Among The Brethren!
 - And Through Doubts:
 - Which Take Away From Our Peace In Christ!
 - We Have Enough Of This From The World:
 - It Is Not Something That Should Come From Within Our Own Churches!
 - When These Kinds Of Troubles Arise:
 - We Need To Be Aware Of What Is Taking Place!
 - And Be “Rooted And Built Up” In The Lord Jesus Christ – “And Established In The Faith, As Ye Have Been Taught!” (Colossians 2:7)
 - But We Also See:
- The Wickedness Of Deception!
 - What Really Is Going On Is This:
 - “And Would Pervert The Gospel Of Christ!”
 - “Pervert” - To Turn It Completely Around!
 - Instead Of Focusing On Grace:
 - They Will Focus On Merit!
 - Instead Of Focusing On Christ:
 - They Will Focus On Self!
 - Instead Of Focusing On What The Lord Has Done:
 - They Will Focus On What You Can Do!
 - Instead Of Focusing On Faith:
 - They Will Focus On Works!
 - They Are Attacking The Gospel Truth Itself!
- This Is The Kind Of Deception:
 - That Has Always Been Around!
 - From The Earliest Times – Even When Those Galatian Churches Were Formed!
 - The Way To Fight This Deception:
 - We Find In Ephesians 4:14-15 - “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; / But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ!”
 - Let Us Fight Off This Deception:
 - By Clinging To The Truth!
 - But We Also Need To Be Aware Of:

3. *The Danger Apart From The Gospel Truth!*

- This Is What We Find In 1:8-9:
 - “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. / As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed!”
 - There Is Great Danger When You Stray From The Gospel Truth!
 - We See:
- The Pronouncement Of This Danger:
 - In Both Verse 8 & 9:
 - And It Is This - “Let Him Be Accursed!”
 - “Anathema!”
 - If Someone / Anyone Attempts To Knowingly Deceive You:
 - Away From The Gospel Truth:
 - It Is A Very Serious Matter!
 - They Deserve The Curse:
 - Of Both God And Man!
 - For They Are Like Those Who Jesus Described In Matthew 18:5-7 - “And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. / But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. / Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!”
 - Of Course, Ultimately God Is The Judge:
 - But Believers Are To Make Judgments Too!
 - Judgments Between:
 - Truth & Error!
 - Righteousness & Sin!
 - Right & Wrong!
 - And Sometimes We Are To:
 - Put Away From Us Those Who Are Knowingly Trying To Deceive Us From The Gospel Truth!
 - And This Matter Is So Serious:
 - That He States This Two Times!
 - We Also See:
- The Principle Of This Danger!
 - Who Is In Danger Of This Judgment?
 - Whoever Will “Preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you!”
 - In Acts 13 & 14:
 - We Looked Very Closely At:
 - The Gospel Message That Paul Preached To Them At The Very Beginning!
 - A Message To Both Jews & Gentiles:
 - That Was The Same!
 - He Shared With Them This In:
 - Acts 13:38-39 - “Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man – Jesus – is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: / And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses!”
 - He & Barnabas Preached:
 - Faith Alone In Christ Alone For Salvation & Forgiveness Of Their Sins!
 - And If Anyone Tries To Add To This!
 - Or If Anyone Tries To Take Away From This!
 - They Are In Great Danger!
 - Even If It Is Paul Himself:
 - Or Even “An Angel From Heaven!”
 - There Is & Can Only Be One Gospel Truth!
- Yet How Many Have Tried To Add To It?
 - We’ve Looked At Some In Sunday School!
 - What Have The Jehovah’s Witnesses Added:
 - Or Taken Away From The Gospel Truth?
 - What Did Joseph Smith Add Or Take Away?

- To Form The Mormon Church?
- There Is Great Danger:
 - Not Just For Those Who Follow After Error:
 - But Especially For Those Who Are Promoting Error!
- There Is Great Danger:
 - Apart From The Gospel Truth!

Conclusion:

1. So - We Must Beware Of:
 - “Any Other Gospel!”
 - Because “Any Other Gospel”
 - Is Really Not A Gospel!
 - For There Is No Greater News Than This:
 - Acts 16:31 - “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!”

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