

Eisenhower Church of Christ

False View of Truth: “That It Can Change”

“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” (Galatians 1:8). Paul addressed this to the churches of the region of Galatia. The people of that region were mainly Gauls. We can better understand what Paul has written in this section if we consider something of the character of these Christians.

Julius Caesar said about these people: “The infirmity of the Gauls is that they are fickle in their resolves and fond of change, and not to be trusted.” It seems to be generally true that this was an identifiable trait of this group of people in that period of time. This relates to the statement of Paul in verse six that he *marveled* that they were so soon removed from the teaching he had done while in their midst. The fickleness, or the idea of being fond of change, may help to explain why they had so quickly been drawn away from Paul’s true teaching to another gospel.

The Galatian people had accepted Paul and the commands and instructions which he presented to them from the Lord. They had done so with confidence at first. An indication of this is seen in Galatians 4:14-15- “And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? For I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me.” They were so receptive when Paul was among them that they seemed to him to be willing to sacrifice greatly in order to be helpful to him who had taught them the truth.

The sad thing is, and the thing which made Paul marvel, is that when the Judaizing teachers had come to them with a perverted and valueless substitute for the Gospel, requiring them to be circumcised, they also received that perverted gospel. Paul therefore writes this letter in order to overcome the influence of these false teachers and to establish his apostleship. Paul very plainly and forcefully states that no one has the authority to preach any gospel other than that which has been revealed.

In verse eight Paul writes: **“But though we, or an angel from heaven...”** Paul here supposes an impossibility in order to make his point to these brethren. Paul uses the word “angel” to make a very strong point that it matters not who it is that preaches a perverted gospel. This very concise statement will include all men, even Paul himself. He continues; **“...should preach any other gospel unto you...”** That would specifically be any gospel not dependent upon the grace of God. Those Judaizing teachers tried to make salvation dependent upon the fleshly covenant of circumcision. Others may make different changes, but none of the changed gospels is to be accepted. At the beginning, near the middle and at the ending of God’s written revelation to man, He makes clear that no additions or subtractions are to be allowed (Deut. 4:2; Prov.30:6; Rev. 22:18-19) Jude 3 makes plain that the Gospel has now been once and for all delivered.

And Paul continues by writing; **“...than that which we preached unto you...”** Paul preached the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (I Cor. 15:1-5). He preached belief in and confession of Christ (Romans 10:9-10). He preached repentance from sin (Acts 17:30). Paul preached baptism *into* Christ (Gal. 3:27). He preached that submission to the Gospel of Christ makes a “new creature” (2 Cor. 5:17). The Gospel Paul preached was a distinctive one and a universal one that could be understood easily!

Paul wrote for that one who makes changes in the Gospel he preached: **“...let him be anathema...”** Paul devotes any who would pervert the Gospel of Christ to destruction. Consider some of the many passages from God’s revelation about the utterly repulsive nature of false teaching (Jer. 23:2; 50:6; Tit. 1:10-11; Rom. 16:17-18; 2 John 9-11; Mt. 7:22-23). Paul uses a very strong term in this verse to indicate the greatest possible abhorrence of any attempt to pervert the Gospel of Christ. Any person who would be a teacher of God’s Word certainly ought to have this passage before him constantly.

There is *but one Gospel*. It is not possible to preach a changed gospel and still be pleasing to God. We need to understand clearly that a solemn and serious responsibility rests upon the shoulders of all who would teach the Word of God (James 3:1).

Today there is great pressure to change with the changing times. There are many people who are willing to listen to perverted messages. Let us be the ones who shun all such perverted gospels. Let us be the ones who are in opposition to these twisted messages, rather than being the ones to praise and give thanks for them. Paul's warning to his Galatian brethren in the first century is indeed one that deserves another hearing today! Let us hear it well. —David Lemmons

Prayer Requests

June Smith came forward Sunday evening, April 1st, requesting prayers as she will be moving to Lubbock to be closer to her daughter and son-in-law. Please keep June in your prayers that she makes wise decisions both regarding her move and with everyday problems in her life.

Verona Dykes (co-worker of John Wood) has been diagnosed with MS. John is requesting prayers for her. Please pray that Verona will receive the necessary treatments that will be most effective for her MS.

Jimmy Weaver had his hernia surgery on Thursday, March 29th. His surgery went well and he was able to go back to Parks that afternoon. Jimmy was given pain meds. He is in room #302.

Maxine Newton is at Madison Medical Resort for physical therapy for her injured hip. Continue to keep her in your prayers.

Both **Larry & Janis May** were sick last week with flu like symptoms. Keep them in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Glenda Hillis was taken to Health South - Room #208 A for rehab on her knee replacement. Pray that the therapy she undergoes helps her recover quickly and pain free.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Bill & Mary Brown; Bill Butler; Glenna McCarty-Callendar; David Castor; Beth Clay; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; John Ford; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; David Guynn; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Glenda Hillis; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Eliseo Lopez; Russ Montgomery; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Verlie Snyder; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Laura Vasquez; Jurlean Warren; Doris Weakland; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Jennie Fuls; Roberta Hamil; Janis Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

For what reason did Abraham lie to Abimelech about his relationship to his wife?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Christ was already dead when the malefactors came to break his legs. But, Jesus' side was pierced.

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the "**Speaking the Truth in Love**" program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

The “Andrews Church of Christ Gospel Meeting” is April 22nd-25th with Mike Bonner as guest speaker. Their flyer is on our BB.

Office News

The “Tipton Children’s Home” from Oklahoma will be in Odessa on April 10th-12th. They need **Spaghetti Noodles and Diced Tomatoes.**

The “New Mexico Children’s Home” will be back in Odessa June 5th, 2018. They are requesting **55 Gallon Trash Bags.** Monetary donations also accepted.

Note:

John and Sonia Wood will host a “Family Devotional” April 29th following our evening service. It will be held in Room C-5. Please check with Sonia for the needed food items. Everyone is invited to participate.

10 Reasons Not to Take a Bath

If the same excuses that people use for not going to church are applied to other important areas of life, it’s easy to see how inconsistent our logic can be. For example:

- (1) I was forced to bathe as a child.
- (2) People who make soap are only after your money.
- (3) I bathe on special occasions like Christmas and Easter.
- (4) People who take baths are hypocrites—they think they are cleaner than everyone else.
- (5) I would bathe but there are so many different kinds of soap, can’t decide which one is best.
- (6) I used to bathe, but it got boring so I stopped.
- (7) The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer.
- (8) I’ll start bathing when I get older and dirtier.
- (9) I just don’t have the time to bathe.
- (10) None of my friends take baths. -Selected

April 8th, 2018

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord's Supper
West...

A.M.

Jeff Wesson
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Tom Sorenson
Josh Wells
Jacob Carson
Richard Siler
Jr. Munoz
Scot Straw

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
John Wood
Gary Loving
Larry May
Chris Butler
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Bill Ryan
Dex Dennard
Craig Wesson

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson—561-5302 *Deacon:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Pulpit:* Bill Brown 703-6225 *Table:* Chris Butler 362-7486 *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties:* Don Easlon 288-5834 *Collections:* Don Easlon 288-5834

Sunday AM

“Three Decisive Steps”
(1 Samuel 7:1-4)

Sunday PM

“Love Your Enemies”
(Matthew 5:43-44)

Our Records

Bible Class... 69

Morning Worship...98

Evening Worship...61

Wednesday...87

Contribution...\$4,847.50