

Galatians

An Introduction, Part 2

The letter has two inter-related themes:

- 1) We are more wicked and sinful than we ever dared believe.
- 2) We are more accepted and loved by God than we ever dared hope.

Put another way, Paul is going to say,

- 1) There is no Gospel without repentance.
- 2) There is no Gospel without faith in Christ alone.

The first group tries to find God without repentance.

The second group is different than the first group. You see sin, hate sin, and want to eradicate sin from your lives.

BUT, you don't believe that Christ alone has the power to do it. So "grace by faith" needs some help.

Galatians 1:6-7

You have joined unbelievers in turning to earthly methods to try to set you free from your demons.

Galatians 3:1-3

BUT, even when someone does overcome an addiction with earthly methods, what you are relying upon is just an exchange of addictions.

Colossians 2:6-8, 20-21

Counterfeit saviors come in all shapes and sizes and some look really good at first glance.

When earthly principles take on the guise of religion, Satan's subterfuge can be really difficult to see.

Galatians 4:3, 9

We must confess that we have turned away from God and His grace to an idol of our own making. And we must trust in Him alone to set us free from the sin of our lives.