

The Truth of the Gospel Must Be Preserved

Galatians 2:1-10

In this letter Paul mixes autobiography (his own story) with current events (the Galatians' story), all in service to the Story--the Gospel

"After fourteen years I went up again to _____" [v. 1]

What is the purpose of this trip? [v. 2]

1. In response to a _____ – the Lord supernaturally directed Paul
2. To set forth the gospel he is preaching among the Gentiles
3. To make sure that he is not "running in _____"
To make certain that he and the other apostles are all on the _____
"The truth of the Gospel must be preserved" [v. 5]

I. The problem _____ and _____: legalism--works righteousness

The default setting of the human heart; the engine that drives _____

A. Observance of the _____ law

Circumcision--the visible marker of spiritual and cultural _____

1. Boundary markers to keep the Jews culturally distinct
2. A checklist to achieve _____ before a holy God
Christ's work on the cross is not sufficient – we must add some _____ of our own
Legalism makes such practices non-negotiable – essential for salvation
The Apostles preserved the Gospel by "adding _____" to it! [v. 5-6]

B. Paul takes a road trip to Jerusalem with two strategic companions

1. Barnabas--a _____ Christian
2. Titus – a _____ Christian
The acceptance of Titus was a _____ public statement

C. Paul does not give an _____. The Gospel is the hill he will not relinquish!

"If righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no _____."

[Galatians 2:21b]

II. The problem _____ and _____: legalism

A. The subtle disease is the most _____

Anti-Gospel _____ were "secretly brought in--slipped in" to Galatia [v. 4]

The _____ results of missing the Gospel

B. _____ vs. freedom

1. The bondage of supposed _____. The grave danger of thinking you are _____ the standard--legalism breeds a culture of _____.

2. The bondage of failure:

a. perpetual _____;

b. _____;

c. _____

3. Reluctance to _____ the Gospel--it seems too good to be true

We barely _____ in the vast ocean of grace

III. Be eager to remember the _____

A. The Backstory

Eagerness to give is born of the Gospel

B. The backstory is _____ by the Story

"Neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new _____."

[Galatians 6:15]

C. The Story animates our stories

"In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything,

but only _____ working through _____." [Galatians 5:6]