

Sermon Study Guide



#1: A Wake-Up Call

Law & Liberty: Experiencing Freedom in Christ

August 30, 2020 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

In this series we will study the book of Galatians to see that the one true Gospel--the Gospel of Jesus Christ--provides a balance between rules and law and freedom and grace.

Reflect

How do you react to rules and restrictions in any given situation? Do you feel that the Christian life is restrictive? Why or why not?

Read and Discuss

Scripture

Galatians 1:1-10

Discussion Questions

- How did Paul identify himself in his letter to the Galatians (v.1)? How did he get his apostleship? What important foundational truth of the Gospel did he remind the Galatians? Why should we be reminded of the essence of the Gospel message today?
- False gospels are those that add to the free gift of salvation. Like the Galatian church, this has crept into Christian churches. Give examples of false gospels that are being taught today.
- Paul gave four admonitions to churches that serves as a reminder to us today:
 - Be rooted in God's Word (v.6).** What shocked and disappointed Paul about the Galatian Christians? What do you think caused them to react that way to their faith? How important is it to you to know God's Word and to know why you believe what you believe? How does being rooted in God's Word affect your view of Him?
 - Discern. Filter through the Bible. (v. 7).** In what way were the Galatian Christians being thrown into confusion? What is discernment? What variation of the Gospel have you heard about? What do you do to filter what's real or not so that you will not be misled?
 - Defend the Truth, even if it isn't popular (v. 8-9).** How did Paul stress the significance of representing the gospel accurately? How should you respond when someone shares with you a wrong doctrine? How do you defend the truth and your faith when they are being challenged? In what way do you examine the doctrine of the Bible before you pass it on to others?
 - Be motivated to live for God (v. 10).** What allegations had Paul been accused of? What was Paul's reasoning why it didn't matter to him if his message was unpopular? Why is it hard to speak the truth when everyone is against you? What is your motivation for living out your beliefs?

Respond

In Walk: The main themes of the book of Galatians are Gospel and grace. Like Paul and the Galatians, we live in a world where truth is drowned by so many lies disguised as half-truths or imitations of truth. How would you prepare yourself to respond when you hear a distorted message about Jesus Christ?

In Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for reminding me of the gospel truth: that Jesus Christ died and rose again to save me from my sins. Thank you for offering the free gift of salvation to everyone. Help me to continue to grow in my faith by being rooted in Your Word. Grant me wisdom to discern and defend my faith whenever I have to. Thank You that I can live a life that is pleasing to you because You give me strength and grace. In Jesus' name. Amen.