



*What is doctrine and why must we embrace it?

***2 Timothy 4:3** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; **4** and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Galatians 1:8-9 **Twice we are told** not to receive a different gospel or you will be accursed; Damned to hell doomed. **Judaizers were the problem** on that day. We still have Judaizers but we've added Jesus Plus followers to Christianity in this century.

*Do you know what's a counterfeit Christian believes?

***Galatians 2:1** Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. **2** And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain. **3** Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. **4** And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), **5** to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

1. **V:1-2 Paul was taught by revelation knowledge.** He only had two visits to Jerusalem in 14 years. Barnabas was a well-respected Jew who is a follower of Jesus and Titus was a Gentile follower of Jesus and a spiritual leader.

2. **V:3 We are saved by grace alone.** Titus was a testimony of salvation apart from the law.

3. **V:4-5 False Christians never consider themselves incorrect/false.** **This is because they added something to grace.** After all, in their minds, they'd reason that grace is better/complete with the addition. This is the Jesus plus syndrome that is prevalent in the church today. Anything added to grace is a realm of bondage no matter how good it is or sounds.

*Amazing unity when God's grace is evident.

***Galatians 2:6** But from those who seemed to be something—whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man—for those who seemed to be something added nothing to me. **7** But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter **8** (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), **9** and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. **10** They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

1. **V:6-8 Understanding the difference of cultural targets** but using the same gospel of Grace. Understanding the different cultures is crucial, but we challenge cultures and do not succumb to them.

2. **V:9-10 Spirit-led leaders** when they identify grace working they must always extend blessings in Jesus' name.

This meeting was held in private to keep the less mature in the faith from adding their emotional input and their demands for the law to be added.

*Fearing your peers more than God is true bondage.

Galatians 2:11* Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; **12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. **13** And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. **14** But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews? **15** We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, **16** knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

1. **V:11-13 Our friends' judgments** cannot carry more weight than God's.

We measure and value friendships sometimes to the point of bringing hypocrisy to the gospel of grace.

God's Spirit must become greater, I must become less, and my friends must not have the greater say in my life.

2. **V:14-16 Christians are to live to a certain Spirit-filled life** and not a fleshly existence.

Asking a non-believer to live a spirit-filled life is morally impossible.

A Moral reality is impossible outside of the Gospel of Grace.

A moral nation is impossible outside of the wisdom of the Bible.

All people have to be led by the Spirit and the Word of God. The combo of both Word and Spirit is the only way for truth to enter into a person's life.

This epistle is setting the importance of the Spirit-filled life.

*Christians are transgressing by accepting anything less than transformation.

Galatians 2:17* "But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! **18 For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. **19** For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. **20** I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. **21** I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

1. **Sexually active Christians** outside of Marriage is a transgression (Willful sinning).

Hetero/Homosexual sex outside of marriage is building again those things that God destroyed.

When you've invited Jesus in your heart and continue in this behavior is outright rebel. **2 Peter 3:15-16**

Where is the transformation if we live still to a foul mouth, angry attitudes, and a lack of self-control?

2. **True Christians believe it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.**

Christ living in us is the introduction to a Spirit-filled life. I can only do this through Faith in Christ and the transformation that God brings to my life.

3. **I can never set aside** God's amazing Gospel of Grace.

Because of God's Spirit inside of me, I am different. Stop putting so much emphasis on your past or the environment you grew up in. Stop emphasizing what the culture is luring you into. Great is He that is in you than He that is in the world.