

A CHANGELESS MESSAGE IN A WORLD OF CHANGE

© 2014 Mark Beard

TEXT: GALATIANS 1:6-1:10

6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— **7** which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. **8** But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! **9** As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!

10 Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ. NIV

INTRODUCTION

By nature, it would seem, people are easily led astray from what is good, healthy, or profitable. Add to this problem, a world in constant change. Some good. Some bad. But constant change just the same. As humans we are constantly bombarded with the message that new is good and old is bad, and tolerance, adaptation, and compromise is essential. Again, some of it is good and some bad.

However, as Christians, the power of our faith resides in the uncompromising, undiluted, unchangeable power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As it has been said, "The methods for propagating the gospel may change, but the message must never change!" To change the message is to rob it of its power and bring the judgment of God on one's self.

In our text, we see Paul's *reasons* for holding to the true message of the Gospel.

- I. THE GOSPEL DOES NOT NEED TO CHANGE WITH THE DAY (v.6-7).**
 - A. The Gospel defines the day.**
 - B. The Gospel clarifies the need of the day.**
 - C. A false gospel possesses no power.**

- II. BEWARE OF THOSE WHO SEEK TO PERVERT THE GOSPEL (v.8-9).**
 - A. Some would distort the message for personal gain.**
 - B. Some would misrepresent the message.**
 - C. Those who do such things are under God's judgment.**

III. OUR MISSION IS TO HOLD TO THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST (v.10).

- A. We must examine *our motivation*—to please God or man.**
- B. We must choose *our mission*—to please God or man.**
- C. We remember our identity—we are servants of Christ, not of men.**

CONCLUSION

A.B. Simpson is reported to have said that the gospel, "Tells rebellious men that God is reconciled, that justice is satisfied, that sin has been atoned for, that the judgment of the guilty may be revoked, the condemnation of the sinner cancelled, the curse of the Law blotted out, the gates of hell closed, the portals of heaven opened wide, the power of sin subdued, the guilty conscience healed, the broken heart comforted, the sorrow and misery of the Fall undone. -M. Cocoris, Evangelism, A Biblical Approach, Moody, 1984, p. 29.

As anyone can see, the reasons for holding to the uncompromising, undiluted, unchangeable power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is clear. The power of the Gospel is the only message that will transform lives and save our eternal souls.