

WRONG GOSPELS

MAKING CLEAR THE MOST IMPORTANT THING

*“... there be some that trouble you,
and would pervert the gospel of Christ.*

~ Galatians 1:7

1. The Gospel Clear

- a. For a majority of Christians, this day is the most important in the year
 - i. Why? the crux (cross) of Christianity is death/resurrection of Jesus Christ
- b. People have a gospel problem: they don't know it. Rom 3-5, 1Co 15:1-4, 2 Cor 5:21
- c. The gospel of salvation has been perverted, watered down, confused - Gal 1:7
- d. An unclear gospel hurts people: getting clear this one thing would improve 100%
- e. What people think saves them will be where they will be challenged.

2. Perverted Gospel

- a. Ignores sin - Sin not the gospel, but it makes salvation real/necessary - 1 Tim 1:15
- b. Excludes Jesus (perverts Jesus) - no Jesus, wrong Jesus - 2 Cor 11:4
- c. Excludes Cross (perverts the cross) - the most common - 1 Cor 1:17, 2:2, Gal 6:14
- d. Adds works (perverts grace) - The issue in Galatians - Gal 2:16,3:2, Rom 4:5, 11:6

3. Wrong Gospels

- a. These are wrong due to being watered down, missing elements, +works, graceless
- b. Watered down gospels: God loves me, believe in Jesus, best life now, inviting him into your life (Rev 3:20), knowing God's love, personal relationship
- c. Missing Jesus/Cross - Confessing sin, turning from sin, asking for forgiveness, following Jesus, born again, feel the real presence/Spirit, experience God, blind faith, accepting him as your personal Saviour, receiving Jesus
- d. Adding works to grace - Go to church, being good, doing your best, keep command; cleaning up my act, loving God with all my heart, make him lord, confess with your mouth, baptism, dead faith, Matt 19:17-23
- e. Historical Tradition - Naming Christ - he was, he lived, he died, he rose again. Salvation in the church, apostle's creed (no atonement), nicene (baptism)

4. Cause of Confusion

- a. To clear up the confusion, we must know the cause:
- b. 1 - Tolerating heresy - departing from the scripture - solution: believe the Bible
- c. 2 - Preacher talk - trying to oversimplify - solution: preach the Bible
- d. 3 - Failing to rightly divide - solution: teach the Bible rightly divided
 - i. *Ignoring progressive revelation creates 'gospels' that are missing the crux*
- e. The greatest benefit of knowing the Bible rightly divided is getting the gospel right