



2016: Week 15

Sunday, April 10th 2016

"The Source of the Paul's Gospel"

Galatians 1:11–12

¹¹For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. ¹²For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ" (NASB).

On Sunday we continued our sermon series in *Galatians*. In this particular passage Paul placed great importance on the source of his teaching. With his credibility being challenged, Paul feared that the Gospel message might be challenged as well. By discounting Paul, it would be easier for his opponents to discard his teachings. Consequently, Paul steps out to defend his credibility. However, instead of doing so to satisfy his ego or protect his reputation, Paul defends his credibility to protect an idea much greater than himself.

1. **READ Galatians 1:11–24**

- How did Paul receive the truth about Jesus and the Gospel?
- Why does Paul spend so much time explaining that he did not receive instruction from the Apostles?
- What idea is Paul so vigorously protecting?

2. **READ Galatians 2:16**

"Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law, but through faith in Christ Jesus..."

- What does it mean to be "justified through faith in Christ Jesus"?
- What is the opposite of justification by faith?
- Consider the following two statements:
#1 *"I read the Bible regularly, I obey Jesus' teachings, I serve God, I go to church, and I try to model my life after Christ **so that God will forgive me of my sins.**"*

#2 *"I trust Jesus, and I believe that His death paid for my sins completely. **Because God has forgiven me (based upon what Jesus did for me),** I read the Bible regularly, I obey Jesus' teachings, I serve God, I go to church, and I try to model my life after Christ."*

What is the theological difference between these two statements?

If someone were teaching that there is no great difference between these two statements, how would you respond? Does it make more sense now as to why Paul made such a big deal about defending the Gospel in *Galatians*?

FAMILY PRAYER: Thank God for what He has done for you! Ask Him for discernment, boldness, and clarity to defend the truth of the Gospel when you are in a position to do so.