

Shofar Johannesburg

Live the Gospel, Love the People, Obey the Spirit

The True Gospel



by Pastor Hennie Swart



Galatians 1:1-11

¹Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—²and all the brothers who are with me,

To the churches of Galatia:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.



Galatians 1:1-11

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.



Galatians 1:1-11

¹⁰For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

¹¹For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel.



Outline

According to Paul the Gospel is:

1. Singular
2. Serious
3. Central
4. Set in Scripture
5. By grace, not works
6. Already, but not yet
7. God-centered



Idolatry

"Idolatry is not so much wanting bad things as it is turning good things into ultimate things. This means anything can become an idol, including good things, such as career, family, achievement, independence, a political cause, material possessions, certain people in dependence upon you, power and influence, physical attractiveness, romance, human approval, financial security, your place in a particular social circle or institution."

Tim Keller



Idolatry

"Human history is the long terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy." CS Lewis, Mere Christianity

"An 'idol' is anything more fundamental than God to your happiness, meaning in life, and identity." Timothy Keller



Conclusion

The Gospel is the central tenant of the Christian faith – if we forsake the Gospel, we forsake the One who called us by it.





The True Gospel

We can drift from the True Gospel in two directions:



Wrong: Faith + Works = Salvation
 Right: Faith = Salvation + Works

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