

Session #1- Not I But Christ
The Truth of the Gospel (Part 1)
(Galatians 1:1 – 2:10)

Galatians: Paul fighting against legalism, license, and carelessness

- The Galatian “heresy”: “I need Jesus Christ plus _____ to live life pleasing to God”

The Truth of the Gospel: Ga 2:5,14

- Always God-centered – Ga 1:11; 3:1; 4:6
 - ...The loving heart of the Father – Ga 1:4; Jo 3:16 (God “for”, not “against” the world)
 - ...The atoning work of the Son – Ga 2:16; Ro 5:8-10; Ga 3:1 (A full and perfect Savior... a full and perfect salvation)
 - ...The indwelling and outflowing of the Holy Spirit – Ga 3:2,3; 5:16,18,22 (He gives us God’s Life)
- Always Grace-empowered – Ga 1:3,15; 6:18
 - ...Everything Christian is freely received as a gift – Ro 4:4,5
 - ...The complete, all sufficient activity of God in behalf of man – Eph 2:7-10; Ro 6:10
(faith: man’s receptivity of that activity)
 - ...Frees us from “pre” conditions and “post” conditions – Jo 3:16; 1:12; Acts 2:21
- Always has Liberty as its result – Ga 1:4; 2:4; 5:1
 - ...Freedom: the ability of an object to function – without hindrance – according to its nature/design – Ga 1:24; 5:13
 - ...It is the Truth Who makes us free – Jo 8:32-36; 14:6

The Problem and the Solution

- The Charges:
 - ...“desertion” – Ga 1:6 – “You are deserting HIM!”
 - ...“distortion” – Ga 1:7 – “You’re living by a ‘different’ gospel!”
 (Explains so much of our mediocrity, boredom, and bondage!)
- The Solution:
 - ...“Not I, but Christ” – Ga 2:20 (our salvation and living-the-Christian-life “theology”)
 - ...“Not I” = sinful, separated, unable to please God “I” = “crucified with Christ” – Ro 6:6
 - ...“but Christ” = sinless, righteous, holy Christ = “lives in me” – Col 1:27
 - ...“the life I now live” = is that Christ living in this new me! – II Cor 5:17

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who _____, but Christ who _____ in me. The _____ I now _____, I _____ by faith in the Son of God, Who _____, and gave Himself up for _____.”

Communicating/Bearing Witness to the Truth of the Gospel (The story of a changed/exchanged life)

“Once I was ____, now I am ____, and here is Who made the difference!”

- Every Christian testimony is the same:

...a God story ...a grace story ...a freedom story

- Every Christian testimony is unique/original:

...zip code ...age ...precipitators ...revelation – Ga 1:11-24

- Every Christian testimony has Divine origins:

...we “received it through a revelation of God” – Ga 1:12

...who/what I was – “my former life” – Ga 1:13,14 (“Not Christ, but I” story!)

...what God did – “But when God...” – Ga 1:15-16 (How He turned on the lights!)

...what difference He made in me – “that I might...” – Ga 1:16-24 (How He glorifies Himself through me!)