

## Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

July 4, 2021

### Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Romans 14:14-23

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Paul's Religious Persuasion*  
(Galatians 1:10-12)

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

### Announcements:

**A Blessed Independence Day to All!** "...proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10).

**Our Fall Picnic** is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 12. We can't get a permit until 60 days prior, but save the date and we'll let you know in a few weeks.

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

## Galatians 1:6-9 *A Fool and God's Grace are Soon Parted*

"Him that called" the Galatians (1:6) could have been Paul, for to be removed from the apostle of grace would mean being removed from grace (cf. IITim.1:15). But it is always *God* who calls men to grace (Rom.8:30; ICor.1:9; 7:15; IThes. 2:12; IITim.1:9) *with the gospel* (IIThes.2:14). When men believe it, they become "the called" (Rom.1:6).

Being called "into the grace of Christ" means being saved by grace (Eph.2:8). But God expects those who are saved by grace to "stand" in grace (Rom.5:1,2). One of the opposite meanings of the word *stand* is *to remove* (1:6 cf. Isa.46:7).

Once our study of Galatians reveals all that it means to stand in grace, you too will "marvel" that anyone would remove themselves from it "so soon" (1:6). Now, Paul knew from his familiarity with the Old Testament that it is the natural tendency of man to depart from God's truth in *any* dispensation. He just thought it wouldn't happen until "the latter times" (ITim.4:1). So what did they leave grace *for?*

Well, notice Paul doesn't say they left it for a *false* gospel. They left it for "another" doctrine, and the only doctrines that aren't false are *Bible* doctrines. He meant the gospel of the kingdom the Lord preached (Mt.4:23) and sent the 12 to preach (Lu.9:1,2), the one that included the law (Mt.23:2,3; 28:19,20). Paul preached *grace*, not law (Rom. 6:14,15).

But if they left grace for the law, why would Paul say the other gospel they fell for was "*not* another" gospel (1:7)? Well, gospel means "glad tidings" (Isa.61:1cf.Lu.4:18), and while the law was *good news* for Jews who were under it, it was *bad news* for the Galatians who weren't! We know they fell for the law because Paul says "there be some that *trouble* you" (1:7). That's the word James used at the

Jerusalem Council to describe those who put Gentiles under the law (Acts 15: 19,24). *Saved* Jews left the council determined *not* to trouble Gentiles with the law, but *unsaved* Jews bound the Galatians with the law, thereby *perverting* the gospel (1:7).

Paul includes *himself* in warning of men who might teach the law (1:8), for he knew the persecution he was enduring might prompt him to quit preaching the grace that was *causing* the persecution (cf. ICor.10:12). Plus, someone wrote the Thessalonians a letter to say the Tribulation was at hand and signed Paul's name to it (IIThes.2:2), and that could happen to the Galatians about the law as well.

Only a *fallen* "angel from heaven" would teach the law to Gentiles. Fallen angels *live* in heaven, and will until Revelation 12:7-9. We have no power to *curse* a fallen angel to hell, but he's going to hell anyway, so Paul says to just "let him be" accursed (cf. ICor.14:38), or "removed" from God.

A *saved* man who teaches the law can't be cursed to hell, but cursing is the opposite of *blessing* 30 times in the Bible (e.g., James 3:10). "Any" who preach the law (Gal.1:9) lose the "blessedness" of grace (Gal.4:15). The Galatians went from being willing to give others what they had (4:15) to envying what others had (5:26). Sounds like a curse to me!

Of course, it was perfectly legit for *James* to continue to preach the law, for he taught it to "*Jews*" (Acts 21:12) just as he said he would (Gal.2:9). But he also *quit* teaching the law to Gentiles—*also* just as he said he would (Acts 15:19).

I entitled this message "A Fool and God's Grace Are Soon Parted" because Paul called the Galatians "foolish" (3:1) to leave grace for law, blessedness for cursing. When they

were deciding whether to trade grace for law, the angels who Paul says are always watching us were probably crying, "*Don't trade!*" as audience members cry on "Let's Make a Deal." But they couldn't hear those angels, and men *still* can't hear them. So when Christians are thinking of trading grace for law, it's up to *us* to cry, "*Don't trade!*" Amen?

# Faith Bible Church

[www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com](http://www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com)

July 4, 2021

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

*Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger*

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