

Galatians - An Empty Tomb Show Grace

April 12, 2020

Pastor Mark Turner

Galatians 1:10-2:16

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Paul's Testimony Teaches Us:

- Christianity was NOT though up by reflection, reasoning or man's thinking. Gal 1:13. Paul helped martyr Stephen Act 7:54-8:1. Paul sought to destroy Christianity Act 9:1-7. Paul didn't reason his way to belief but was converted by God Gal 1:15-16.
- Christianity is NOT a derivative of religions Gal 1:17-19. Christianity is received by faith alone. Jesus said to Thomas Jn 14:6 I am the way, the truth and the life...
- Christianity is only understood with the Cross and Resurrection Gal 1:23-24. Paul didn't think this up, he didn't get it from the apostles in Jerusalem. His Gospel matched the Apostle's gospel.
This has been the message of God's Word (Old & New) from the beginning
 - Adam & Eve broke fellowship w/ God in the Garden Gen 3:8ff
 - Even then, God promised hope of restoration Gen 3:15
 - God called Abraham, promised to make a great nation Gen 12 (Rm 4:9)
 - God delivered His children from slavery in Egypt, Red Sea, into promised land all by His mercy, not because they were obedient
 - the sacrifices of the tabernacle pointed forward to what God would do for His people through Jesus at the Cross.
- Remember by Paul's own words he was:
 - a wicked man Gal 1:13 - persecuted God's church (Act 8:1)
 - a devoutly religious man Gal 1:14 - exceeded his peers
- BUT Paul understood his acceptance by God was by Grace and Faith Alone
 - Gal 1:15-16. God choose Paul. God called Paul by grace.
 - Gospel : 1 Cor 15:1-11

Seeing Gospel Through the Cross & Resurrection

- Luther: "Here I must take counsel of the gospel. I must hearken to the gospel, which teacheth me, not what I ought to do, (for that is the proper office of the law), but what Jesus Christ the Son of God hath done for me: to wit, that He suffered and died to deliver me from sin and death. The gospel willeth me to receive this, and to believe it. And this is the truth of the gospel. It is also the principal article of all Christian doctrine, wherein the knowledge of all godliness consisteth. Most necessary it is, therefore, that we should know this article well, teach it unto others, and beat it into their heads continually."
- Why we have been focusing on Gospel Fluency – know the Gospel!
- Why is the Gospel so hard to grasp? Tertullian: "just as Christ was crucified between 2 thieves, so this doctrine of justification is ever crucified between 2 opposite errors"
- These errors make the cross offensive to humanity
- RELIGION – moralism, I can earn my way to God. Truth without Grace - yes God is holy, but you can't earn your way to God. Jms 2:10
- IRRELIGION – God accepts all. Grace without Truth
- Gospel: Grace and Truth – Jesus & the Cross Jn 1:14
- The Cross is not an offense but God's love in action: 1 Jn 3:16
- The Cross is God's grace & truth, justified by God's provision Gal 2:16

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