Revolution Grace

Week 1: Don't Be Bewitched!

This Week's Scripture Reading: Galatians 3-6, Ephesians 1-6, Philippians 1-4 and Psalm 6-12

Galatians 3:1-6 (NIV)

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. ² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? ³ Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? ⁴ Have you suffered so much for nothing--if it really was for nothing? ⁵ Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard? ⁶ Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

You Foolish Galatians!

Foolish Defined: Unintelligent - Sensual - Unwise

I Would Like To Learn Just One Thing From You:

 Did You Receive The Spirit By Observing the Law, Or By Believing What You Heard?

Are You So Foolish?

- After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?
- Have you suffered so much for nothing--if it really was for nothing?
- Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Galatians 3:7-9 (NIV)

⁷ Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. ⁸ The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." ⁹ So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

John 5:45 (NIV)

"But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set.

Galatians 3:10-14 (NIV)

¹⁰ All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." ¹¹ Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, "The righteous will live by faith." ¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, "The man who does these things will live by them." ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." ¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

The 5 Truths Of This Passage:

1. All Who Rely On Observing Are Under A Curse! - v. 10

1 Corinthians 15:56 (NIV)

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

2. No One Is Justified Before God By The Law, But Instead By Faith! - v. 11

Romans 3:21-22a, 28 (NIV)

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. . . . ²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

3. The Law Is Not Based On Faith! - v. 12

Galatians 3:24 (NIV)

The law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.

4. Christ Came To Redeem Us From This Curse Of The Law! - v. 13

John 1:17 (NIV)

For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

5. Our Reception Of The Blessings Of Abraham And The Promise Of The Holy Spirit Happen By Faith - Not By The Law! - v. 14

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

2 Powerful Life Changing Points:

- 1. Good Works Get You Nowhere With God!
- 2. God Only Accepts Those Who Live By Faith!

Today's Truth Statement:

Those Who Think They Are "Christians" By What The Do Or Don't Do, Should Understand They Are Not "Christians" For The Righteous Live By Faith!

Questions:

- What One Truth Or Statement Impacted You Most?
- How Would You Personally Feel If Your Pastor Called You Foolish In Your Spiritual Understanding?
- Why Did Paul Say That The Galatians Had Been Bewitched?
- Why Are We So Easily Enticed To Move From Belief In God, To Belief In Self?
- Why Does The Church Often Use The Term "Falling Away" To Describe Someone Who No Longer Goes To Church? What Does This Say About Our Spiritual Understanding Of God's Grace?
- How Does The Statement All Who Rely On Observing The Law Are Under A Curse -Make You Feel?
- Is It Possible To Live Free And Live By The Law?
- Which Takes More Faith Living By The Law, Or Living By The Spirit? Why?

Next Week Reading: Col 1-4, 1 Thess 1-5, 2 Thess 1-3, 1Tim 1-2, Psalm 13-19