

Salvation Through Jesus Christ Alone

The Christian faith spread as Paul and the other apostles traveled around and shared the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. However, after Paul left Galatia, other teachers came in and added to his message, spreading false truths about the requirements needed to receive salvation. When Paul gets the news, he urgently writes a letter to the Galatian Christians. In the opening of his letter, Paul adamantly emphasized the importance and power of the unaltered gospel: salvation comes by grace through Jesus Christ alone, no additional works required. To underscore this truth, he then reminded the early Christians that he received his apostolic authority directly from Jesus Christ. Together, let's study Paul's salvation teaching to examine what makes Christianity transformative and evaluate our own hearts to ensure we're guarding and preserving the gospel rather than corrupting the truth of salvation through Jesus Christ alone.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What happens when you accidentally use the wrong ingredient in a recipe? For instance, if you accidentally use salt instead of sugar (or vice versa)?
- Who taught you about salvation?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Salvation Through Jesus Christ Alone](#)

READ [Galatians 1](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Have you ever experienced the Passing of the Peace in a worship service? What was the experience like? In segment 1, host Scott Hoezee called The Passing of the Peace “a great, great summary of the gospel” because it reminds us that “through the grace we have received through Jesus, all our relationships are mended; we are starting to get in right relationship with God, with each other, with the whole creation...passing the peace reminds us of that every week when we are in worship.” How does Scott’s explanation impact your understanding of such an intentional worship practice as The Passing of the Peace?
- Reread Galatians 1:3-4. Why do you think this text caused Scott to say that the apostle Paul’s favorite prepositional phrase is: in Christ? How would you explain to someone what Paul means when he says we are “in Christ”?

- As Scott and host Darrell Delaney discuss Galatians 1:6-10, they also discuss Acts 15:19-29. This text shows that the other apostles came to the same conclusion as Paul did: Gentile believers did not need to follow Jewish customs before they could be fully Christian. The Acts 15 passage says “we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles” (v.19) and “it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements...” (v.28). Do you think there are ways today that established Christians make it difficult for new believers who are turning to God? Why or why not?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Acts 10](#), [John 10:1-21](#), [Acts 15:1-35](#), [Acts 9:1-31](#), [2 Corinthians 10](#), [Ephesians 2:8-9](#), [Acts 17:10-12](#)

CONCLUSION

Scott and Darrell discussed three important takeaways for our faith found in Galatians 1:

1. The importance of the authenticity of the gospel message as we receive it, as we proclaim it, as we live it out.
2. The transformative power of God in our lives.
3. The need to stand firm in our faith...to cultivate a steadfast commitment to the pure message of Christianity and the Bible.

Reflect and pray over those lessons from Galatians 1. Ask for the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of growth and opportunities for you to nurture and deepen the roots of your faith.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/salvation-through-jesus-christ-alone>

Printed on November 21, 2024