

“Seeking the Approval of Man or God?”
Galatians 1:6-10

“The person(s) to whom we ascribe most authority — to define who we are, what we’re worth, what we should do, and how we should do it — is the person(s) we fear the most, because it is the person(s) whose approval we want most. God designed us this way, for it reveals who and what our heart loves. This fear comes right from the place where our heart’s treasure is stored (Matthew 6:21). It is a fear of losing or not obtaining something we really desire, which is why it wields such power over us.” (Jon Bloom)

● Galatians 1:6a:

- *“I am astonished....”*: Paul is amazed, flabbergasted, blown away, that the churches of Galatia are making room for this false teaching. *“...I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 1:3). “Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers” (1 Timothy 4:16; cf. Acts 14:21-23).*
- *“...that you are so quickly (conversion or Paul’s visit) deserting (military desertion, abandonment of a mission) Him....”*: Paul is also amazed at how easily, how readily, how soon they have turned from proper doctrine to listening to false doctrine. When we reject Apostolic doctrine we are rejecting Christ. *“Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it” (Hebrews 2:1). “Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder....” (2 Peter 1:12-13).*
 - Reminders: Preaching, Teaching, Evangelism, Communion, and Baptism.
- *“...who called you in the grace of Christ....”*: Paul is reminding the churches of Galatia about the security of their salvation and the means of their salvation. They have been called and are safe and secure, and this calling is by grace, not by works. *“And those whom He predestined, He also called, and those whom He called, He also justified, and those whom He justified, He also glorified” (Romans 8:30). “And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, ‘Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord’ ” (1 Corinthians 1:30-31).*

● Galatians 1:6b-7:

- *“...and are turning to a different gospel — not that there is another one....”* What is a different gospel?: A different gospel would be a different way to be made right with God, other than by grace, through faith. The Judaizers were adding circumcision and the Law to salvation. Our works do not earn our salvation or keep our salvation, but are evidence of our salvation. If we can lose our salvation, it is by works and not by grace. *“But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted....” (2 Corinthians 11:3-4). “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us” (1 John 2:19).*
- *“...but there are some who trouble (agitate, stir up, shake up) you and want to distort (do the opposite of) the gospel of Christ.”*: *“For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.” (Titus 1:10-11; cf. Galatians 6:12)*

● Galatians 1:8-9:

- *“Let him be accursed (this is delivering someone or handing someone over to the judgment of God)....”*: There are two different occasions when Paul states that someone should be “accursed.” When someone

Worship: Glorious Day — Casting Crowns So I Will Trust You — Sovereign Grace Music
Speak O Lord — The Gettys **Closing Song:** Whate’er My God Ordains Is Right — Sovereign Grace Music

Service Times: Sundays: Pneumatology Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

preaches a false gospel and when someone does not have love for God: *“If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come!” (1 Corinthians 16:22)*

- *“But even if we or an angel of heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you....”*: The Scriptures teach us that angels had a part in the giving of the Old Testament (Galatians 3:19; Acts 7:53; Hebrews 2:2). The Judaizers may have been claiming they had received their teaching from an angel (2 Corinthians 11:14-15). All messengers are judged by their faithfulness to the truth, not the credentials of the messenger. *“Every word of God proves true; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you and you be found a liar.” (Proverbs 30:5-6; Revelation 22:18-19; 2 John 1:7-11)*

“Even if we or a holy angel must be the object of God’s righteous curse, were any of us to preach a gospel contrary to the one we humans previously preached to you, then all the more divine wrath must be poured out on those self-appointed nobodies who are now making themselves guilty of this crime.” (William Hendrickson)

- Galatians 1:10:

- *“For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.”*
- Pleasing man over pleasing God:
 - 1) Seeking earthly treasure versus seeking eternal treasure (Matthew 6:19-24).
 - 2) Obedience to God versus obedience to the culture/fleshly desires (1 Peter 1:13-23).
 - 3) Addressing doctrinal error versus minimizing doctrinal error (Titus 1:9-11).
 - 4) Addressing sin versus ignoring sin (Matthew 18:15; Colossians 3:5; Romans 8:12-13).
 - 5) Preaching hard truth versus skipping over hard truth (2 Timothy 4:1-5; Acts 20:26-27).

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of September we are collecting monetary donations for Shannon and Vikki Bobb, a missionary couple that is currently living and serving in Cambodia. For more information about them and the work they are currently doing, please see the sign in the foyer. There is a container on the back table, beside the offering box, to collect your monetary donations. You can also donate via Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Bobbs when you do so!

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** We are having a short Members Meeting TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on Eldership for Jake McElfresh. If you are a church member, please plan on staying for this meeting.

★**PUMPKIN PATCH:** *LADIES*, we are planning a Ladies Pumpkin Patch Fellowship Outing on Saturday, October 1st, at 2pm. If you are interested in going, please let Courtney Dees know as soon as possible, so that she can arrange carpooling and finalize the plans.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, September 25th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something for the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!

★**GUYS BONFIRE:** *MEN, this announcement is for you!* The MEN are all invited to the Cross Residence (147 W Shields Street) TONIGHT at 7pm for a bonfire to celebrate Doug’s 28th birthday! Please bring a chair if you can and enter through the garage or back gate! There will be s’mores, snacks, and desserts provided.