Buy Truth and Do Not Sell It

Jeff Trahan · Galatians 1:6–9

INTRODUCTION

- Solomon's counsel there in Proverbs 23 pictures truth as a possession that's worth any price to acquire.
- Once you buy the truth, it's then not for sale. It's not something you trade away when another offer comes along.
- They had obeyed the gospel. They'd been saved by it. And yet, when other voices came offering something different, they began to trade away the message that they had heard.

1 Deserting Him Who Called You

Galatians 1:6–7

- In this letter, there's no thanksgiving and no praise. In fact, not only is that kind of thing missing here, Paul actually replaces it with a rebuke.
- I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel.
- The word that's translated deserting in the translation I'm using this morning, it's an interesting word has to do with transferring one's allegiance.
- This was a change of allegiance. They were guilty of spiritual desertion.

2 Other Ways to Turn From God Just as Serious

2 Peter 2:20–21; Galatians 5:4

- It would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.
- Passages like the one we're looking at this morning in Galatians tell us that there are other ways to turn from God that are just as serious.
- You are severed from Christ you who would be justified by the law you have fallen away from grace.

3 You Can't Add Something to the Gospel of Christ

1 Corinthians 15:1–4; Acts 15:1; Acts 15:5

- You can accept the most basic tenants of the gospel of Christ, the things that are of first importance, and yet still be guilty of turning to a different gospel.
- You can't add something to the gospel of Christ and yet still have the gospel of Christ.
- Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.
- They were adding the law of Moses to the gospel of Christ.

4 Bound in Heaven: Not Allowed to Require or Permit

Matthew 23:4; 2 Timothy 4:3; Matthew 16:19

- We're not allowed to require something that God doesn't require.
- It's also wrong to permit or to approve something that God doesn't permit or approve.
- Whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed in heaven.
- The job of those who preach the gospel is to be faithful to the message that has come from God that's already bound in heaven.

5 Let Him Be Accursed

Galatians 1:8–9; Joshua 6:16–18

- If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.
- That places a serious responsibility on the shoulders of those who would preach or teach.
- It's the word anathema. It's a word that was used in the Greek Old Testament for the curse of God that rested upon anyone or anything that had been set apart by God for destruction.
- You keep yourselves from the things devoted to destruction.

6 On Guard Against Those Who Distort the Gospel

Deuteronomy 7:26; 2 John 1:9–11

- His words imply something about those who listen and the responsibility that we have in that as well.
- You shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it.
- If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting.
- It's not a message that can be altered whether by adding to it or subtracting from it.

THE CHALLENGE

Our only faithful response is to hold on to it. to do that without addition, to do that without subtraction, and to do that without compromise, for as long as we live. Is that a commitment you're willing to make?

MY NOTES