Finding Freedom: A Study In Galatians

"Understanding Christianity" Galatians 3:1-5

04-24-22

Introduction: We are working our way through Galatians where Paul is addressing how we find freedom in Christ.

- 1. A freedom that includes:
 - The Bondage Of Sin
 - The Bondage Of Religion
- 2. This was a very real problem within the churches of Galatia.
- 3. False teachers had infiltrated the church insisting these new Gentile believers must embrace the law of Moses.
- 4. Paul immediately recognized the danger & addressed it.
- 5. As we come to chapter 3, he appeals to the Galatians' experience in Christ.
- 6. By asking several questions, he helps them understand the new life they have in Christ.
- I. Question 1: Who Has Bewitched You?
 - A. The Galatians Were Acting irrationally.
 - B. The Galatians Understood The Death Of Christ
- II. Question 2: How Did You Receive The Spirit?
 - A. Focus On Regeneration
 - B. Faith Or Works

- III. Question 3: How Will You Be Sanctified?
 - A. Transformation Begins With The Spirit
 - B. It Is Foolish To Think Sanctification Is Possible In The Flesh
- IV. Question 4: Did You Suffer In Vain?
 - A. Persecution Was The Norm In The Early Church
 - B. Turning From Grace Means They Suffered For Nothing
- V. Question 5: How Do You Explain The Miracles God Did All Around You?
 - A. God Did Miracles In Galatia
 - B. Why ... Law Or Faith?

Conclusion: Paul is not questioning the Galatians' salvation.

- 1. They had been set free from the bondage of sin, but because of the influence of the Judaizers, they were not free.
- 2. Instead, they were being enslaved to the law.
- 3. Paul understood the danger. By supplementing the work of Christ with the law, you supplant it.
- 4. Salvation is by faith in Christ alone. Spiritual formation is by faith in Christ alone.
- 5. Human effort appeals to our ego & makes us feel better, but it nullifies the work of Christ on the cross & in our hearts.
- 6. Do not let Satan or anyone else tell you otherwise!