

GALATIANS 2

1. When did Paul and Barnabas teach the Word of God in Galatia?

-During their first missionary journey.

2. How does Satan try to turn people away from God?

-Satan tries to tell people that the Word of God is not true.

-Satan also tries to tell people that the one who is teaching the Word of God is not teaching the truth.

3. How do we know if a teacher is teaching the truth?

-If it is in the Word of God, the Bible.

4. What was the problem in the churches of Galatia?

-After having believed in Christ, they were turning to a different gospel.

5. What is the different gospel that is really no gospel at all?

-That belief in Christ alone is not enough to be saved.

-That God alone cannot save us.

-That people must also add something to be saved.

6. What is the one and only true gospel?

-That there is nothing that we can do to save ourselves from death, and that Christ alone can save us from death.

7. Are there false teachers today?

-Very many.

8. What do false teachers of today teach?

-Today, false teachers teach that we no longer need the Word of God.

-Today, false teachers also teach that people need to believe their teaching, and not the Word of God.

9. Why is it impossible for anyone to obey the law of Moses?

-Because all people have sinned.

-Because all people are born into sin.

10. Why does a true teaching of the Word of God hurt us?

-A true teaching of the Word of God hurts us because it teaches us that we cannot save ourselves.

-A true teaching of the Word of God hurts us because it teaches us that there is nothing that we can do to be saved.

-A true teaching of the Word of God hurts us because it teaches us that only Christ can save us.

11. What can we learn from Paul who knew about Christ, yet did not believe in Him until Christ revealed Himself to Paul?

-That knowledge of the truth is not enough to be saved.

-We must believe the truths of God and make them a part of our lives.

-In the last lesson, we learned that after Paul and Barnabas had taught the Word of God to the Galatians, false teachers then came in and taught a different gospel.

-In this lesson, we will learn that because Christ alone saved Paul, taught him directly, and made him an apostle, Paul's teaching was truly the teaching of God.

Let's read Galatians 1:13-14

13-For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it.

14-I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

-Paul was a Jew who studied much and knew much about the Jewish religion.

-When Paul was arrested in Jerusalem, here is what he said about his learning:

-“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city. I studied under Gamaliel and was thoroughly trained in the law of our ancestors. I was just as zealous for God as any of you are today” (Acts 22:3).

-When Paul was questioned before the Jewish leaders, he reminded them that he was one of the leaders of the

Jewish religion and a Pharisee (Acts 23:6).

-Paul's faith in the Jewish religion was so strong that he searched for Christians to put them in prison, and have them killed.

-When he was in Caesarea before King Agrippa, this is what Paul said:

Let's read Acts 26:9-11

9-“I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

10-And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the Lord's people in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them.

11-Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. I was so obsessed with persecuting them that I even hunted them down in foreign cities.”

-Why does Paul say that his faith in the Jewish religion was so strong that he searched for Christians to put them in prison, and have them killed?

-To teach us that only Christ can help us to understand when we believe in a false religion.

-To teach us that only Christ can help us to understand

and believe the truths of God.

-Paul was such a strong believer in the Jewish religion that only Christ was able to teach him that his belief was wrong.

-Just like Paul, we believed in a false religion before we believed in Christ.

-Just like Paul, it is only Christ who is able to help us to understand and believe the truths of God.

-Why do people hear the truths of God, but do not believe?

-People do not want to believe in God.

-People do not ask God to help them to understand and to believe.

-In the parable of the sower in Matthew 13, the farmer planted his seed in different soils.

-One soil was hard like a path, and the seed could not go into the earth.

-One soil was shallow with many rocks, and the roots of the seed could not go deep.

-One soil had many thorns, and the thorns choked the plant.

-What is one of the lessons of the parable of the sower?

-The Word of God is sown in the hearts of many people, yet if the people do not ask God to help them to understand, they will not and cannot believe.

Let's read Galatians 1:15-17

15-But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased
16-to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being.

17-I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus.

-Just as God set Paul apart before he was born, God chooses all Christian to believe in Him before we are born.

-We read this in Ephesians 1:4:

-“For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.”

-Just as God revealed Himself to Paul so that Paul could be saved, what must God do for us?

-He must also reveal Himself to us in order that we can

be saved.

-When Christ revealed Himself to Paul, why did Paul not consult any human being?

-Because the Lord Jesus was teaching him, as Paul would become an apostle.

-For almost all of his life, Paul had listened to Jewish teachers who had taught him a false religion.

-Now, however, Paul was learning the truth from God Himself.

-All of the twelve disciples who were taught by the Lord Jesus for three years became apostles except for Judas.

-Therefore, the Lord Jesus did not send Paul to Jerusalem, but rather into Arabia where Christ taught Paul for three years.

Let's read Galatians 1:18-20

18-Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days.

19-I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother.

20-I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie.

-It was only after Christ taught him in Arabia for three years that Paul went to Jerusalem to see the other apostles.

-After meeting Christ on the road to Damascus, why is it important to understand that Paul did not see any of the other apostles except after his three years in Arabia?

-So that we can understand that Paul was directly taught by the Lord Jesus Christ, and not by men.

-Why are there no apostles today?

-Because only the apostles were directly taught by the Lord Jesus to be used by Christ to begin His Church.

-The only apostles who were not directly taught by the Lord Jesus were those whom Paul taught on his missionary journeys, that is, Barnabas, Silas, and Timothy.

-Now that the Church has begun, and the Word of God is complete, there is no longer a need for apostles.

Let's read Galatians 1:21-24

21-Then I went to Syria and Cilicia.

22-I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ.

23-They only heard the report: "The man who

formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.”

24-And they praised God because of me.

-After only fifteen days with Peter in Jerusalem, Paul went to Syria and Cilicia in order to begin the work of teaching the Word of God to the Gentiles.

-This also helps us to understand that Paul was directly taught by the Lord Jesus, as he spent almost no time with the apostles before beginning his teaching.

-After leaving Jerusalem, Paul lived and taught the Word of God in Syria and Cilicia for fourteen years.

-While Paul was teaching in Antioch, false teachers came from Judea teaching this:

-“Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved” (Acts 15:1).

-This is wrong, of course, because circumcision cannot save us.

-No work of any man can save us.

-Only Christ alone and His death on the cross can save us.

-This problem led Paul and Barnabas to travel to Jerusalem to speak with the leaders of the Church.

Let’s read Galatians 2:1-2

1-Then after fourteen years, I went up again to Jerusalem, this time with Barnabas. I took Titus along also.

2-I went in response to a revelation and, meeting privately with those esteemed as leaders, I presented to them the gospel that I preach among the Gentiles. I wanted to be sure I was not running and had not been running my race in vain.

-As we read in verse 2 above, it was a revelation from Christ which caused Paul to go to Jerusalem.

-After fourteen years of teaching, why did Christ want Paul to return to Jerusalem?

-So that all of the leaders of the Church in Jerusalem would understand that Paul’s teaching was from Christ alone.

-While in Jerusalem, some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said this:

-“The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses” (Acts 15:5).

-What was Paul’s response?

Let’s read Galatians 2:3-5

3-Yet not even Titus, who was with me, was compelled to be circumcised, even though he was a Greek.

4-This matter arose because some false believers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves.

5-We did not give in to them for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.

-In what is called the Jerusalem Council, the apostles and elders met to discuss this problem.

-After their meeting, Peter said this:

-“Why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are” (Acts 15:10-11).

-In this meeting of the Jerusalem Council, the leaders of the Church and Paul all agreed that it is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ alone that saves us.

-As for the leaders of the Church in Jerusalem, they were finally able to understand that the teaching of Paul is the teaching of Christ.

Let's read Galatians 2:7-9

7-On the contrary, they recognized that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised.

8-For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to the Gentiles.

9-James, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised.

-At the meeting in Jerusalem, what did the leaders of the Church finally understand?

-That God had called the leaders in Jerusalem to teach the Jews, and that God had called Paul to teach the Gentiles.

Let's read Galatians 2:10

10-All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.

-At the end, the leaders of the Church in Jerusalem only asked Paul to help the poor.

-Paul responded that helping the poor is something that he wanted to do.