

Apostate Paul: Deceiver of Christianity

By Felix Immanuel

In this eBook, you will see Paul's deceptions and how they contradict with the teachings of Jesus Christ. You will also be able to do a complete verse by verse study of Paul's deceptive letter to Galatians and twisting of Scriptures in his letter to the Romans.

Other books by the author includes Christian Truth, Christian Journey, Handling Deceptions in Christianity, Christian Comics, Christian Growth, Devil's Deceptions, Christian Essentials, Revelation: Verse-by-Verse Commentary, Daniel: Verse-by-Verse Commentary and Bible Timelines.

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Overview

Paul was a self-appointed apostle (1Tim 2:7), who wasn't qualified to be an apostle (Acts 1:21-22), lied as an apostle (Eph 1:1; Rev 2:2) and not accepted as an apostle by Jesus Christ (Rev 21:14).

1Cor 9:1a Am I not an apostle?

Even his own conversion testimony is contradicting each other (Acts 9:7; Acts 22:9; Acts 26:14). A matter is resolved by 2 or 3 witnesses (Matt 18:16). Here we have 3 different verses giving witness about a conversion showing that it never happened i.e., contradicting each other. "It is hard for you to kick against the goads." (Acts 26:14b) - Do you think Jesus while speaking to Paul in Hebrew is quoting a Greek proverb spoken by Dionysus, an Olympian god from the Bacchae, written by Euripides (or) by Aegisthus from Agamemnon?

In this book, we will see Paul's deceptions and how they contradict with teachings of Jesus Christ.

Paul's rejection of Christ's teachings

In this section, we will see Paul's deceptions that reject Christ's teachings.

Salvation

*Eph 2:8-9 For **by grace** you have been **saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

*Luke 20:35-36 "But those who are counted **worthy to attain that age**, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.*

*Matt 19:17b ... if you want to enter into life, **keep the commandments.**"*

Paul taught salvation by grace through faith while Jesus taught we must be worthy to attain salvation by keeping God's commandments.

Gospel

*Acts 20:24 "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the **gospel of the grace of God.***

*Matt 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the **gospel of the kingdom**, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.*

*Matt 24:14 "And this **gospel of the kingdom** will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

Grace of God was the gospel preached by Paul, but the gospel Jesus Christ preached was the kingdom of God.

Foundation

*1Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder **I have laid the foundation**, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.*

*Luke 6:46-49 “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? Whoever comes to Me, and **hears My sayings and does them**, I will show you whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the **foundation on the rock**. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”*

Paul being the master builder built his own foundation and called it as Jesus but Jesus said, His teachings are the foundation.

Children of God

*Eph 1:5 having predestined us to **adoption as sons** by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,*

*John 1:12-13 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were **born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**.*

*John 8:34-35 Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever **commits sin** is a **slave** of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but **a son abides forever**.*

Paul taught we are adopted by God for which we have no part to play to become His son. But Jesus taught, we must be born of God to become His son and free from sins to dwell in His house.

Righteousness

*Rom 4:5-6 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom **God imputes righteousness** apart from works:*

Matt 7:21-23 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in

*Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘**I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!**’*

Paul taught that faith is imputed for righteousness but Jesus taught He does not even know those who practice lawlessness.

Bearing Fruit

*Eph 1:5,11 having **predestined** us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ... In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will*

*John 15:1-2a “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit **He takes away;***

Paul taught we are predestined according to the purpose of Christ but Jesus Christ taught, His Father will take away from Him if anyone doesn’t bear fruit.

Grace

*Rom 5:20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where **sin abounded, grace abounded much more,***

Paul taught that grace abounds more where sin abounds. However, the grace Jesus Christ taught is conditional (Matt 22:1-14), reversible (Matt 18:21-35) and expiring (Luke 13:6-9).

Teacher

*2Tim 1:11 to which I was **appointed** a preacher, an apostle, and a **teacher** of the Gentiles.*

*Matt 23:10 “And do **not be called teachers;** for One is your Teacher, the Christ.*

Paul claims that he was appointed as a teacher (by who?) while Jesus Christ said, He is the only Teacher.

Commandments of God

*Rom 7:10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring **death**.*

*Matt 19:17b ... if you want to enter into **life**, keep the commandments.”*

Paul taught commandments of God brings death but Jesus taught commandments of God brings life.

Being Sinless

*Rom 7:19-20 For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but **sin that dwells in me**.*

*John 8:34-35 Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **whoever commits sin is a slave of sin**. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever.*

*Matt 18:8-9 “If your **hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off** and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.*

Sin dwells inside Paul and he blames his wrongdoings on his sins. But Jesus taught we need to be sinless and even cut off our body parts and keep our garments undefiled for our names to get not blotted from the book of Life (Rev 3:4-5).

Law

*Eph 2:15 having **abolished** in His flesh the enmity, that is, the **law of commandments** contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace*

*Matt 5:17 “Do **not think** that I came to **destroy the Law** or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.*

Paul taught that Christ had abolished the law while Jesus Christ Himself said, that He did not come to abolish but to fulfil the law.

Righteous

*Rom 3:10 As it is written: "There is **none righteous**, no, not one;*

*Ezek 14:14 "Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by **their righteousness**," says the Lord GOD.*

*John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is **no deceit!**"*

Paul misquoted a reference about atheists to apply on all humans, even rejecting what God the Father spoke about Job, Daniel and Noah as righteous. Christ declares Nathanael with no deceit.

Circumcision

*Gal 5:3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a **debtor to keep the whole law**.*

*John 7:22a "Moses therefore gave you circumcision not that it is from Moses, but **from the fathers** ..*

Paul taught that the circumcised is a debtor to keep the whole law while Jesus said, circumcision itself was not from Moses but the patriarchs.

Lust

*Gal 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall **not fulfill the lust of the flesh**.*

*Matt 5:28-29 "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, **pluck it out and cast it from you**; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

Paul taught not to fulfil the lust of the flesh while Jesus taught not even to lust, if required, we need to pluck the eyes out to avoid lust.

Great Commission

*Gal 2:7-9 But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and **they to the circumcised.***

*Matt 28:16-20 Then the **eleven disciples** went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. “Go therefore and **make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*

Paul deceives that he must go to the uncircumcised while Peter, James and John must go to the circumcised. But all the eleven disciples of Jesus including Peter, James and John were commanded to go to all nations.

Law and Faith

*Gal 3:12 Yet the **law is not of faith**, but “the man who does them shall live by them.”*

*Matt 23:23 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the **law**: justice and mercy and **faith**. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.*

Paul taught that the law is not of faith but Jesus taught the faith is one of the weightier matters of the law.

Justification by Law

*Gal 3:11 But that **no one is justified by the law** in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.”*

*Luke 18:10-14 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house **justified** rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”*

Paul taught that no one can be justified by the law but the humble tax-collector was justified according to the law (Lev 26:41-42).

Sacrificed to Idols

*1Cor 8:4,8 Therefore concerning the **eating** of things **offered to idols**, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one. ... But **food does not commend us to God**; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.*

*Rev 2:14 “But I have a few things **against you**, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to **eat things sacrificed to idols**, and to commit sexual immorality.*

Paul taught it's okay to eat things sacrificed to idols but Jesus warns not to eat things sacrificed to idols.

Path to Salvation

*Rom 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth **confession is made unto salvation**.*

*Matt 7:13-14 “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and **difficult is the way which leads to life**, and there are few who find it.*

Paul's path to salvation is a wide gate and easy way just by calling on Jesus name and believing in Him in heart. But the path that leads to life is a narrow gate and difficult path by obeying Jesus Christ.

Double-Tongued Paul

To the Jews Paul became as a Jew, that he might win Jews; to those who were under the law, Paul followed the law, that he might win those who were under the law; to the weak Paul became as weak, that he might win the weak.

*1Cor 9:20-21 .. to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I **might win** those who are without law;*

Paul claims to have become all things to all men, that he might save some. Did Paul also become a liar to win liars and hypocrite to win hypocrites? Here are some of the teachings of Paul which he contradicts himself.

Salvation

*Rom 2:5-7 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who “**will render to each one according to his deeds**”: eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;*

*Rom 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth **confession is made unto salvation.***

Salvation by works or faith confession?

Righteousness

*1 Cor 6:9-10 Do you not know that the **unrighteous will not inherit** the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.*

*Titus 3:4-7 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, **not by works of righteousness which we have done**, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

Righteousness required for Salvation or not required?

Justification by Law

*Rom 3:20 Therefore by the **deeds of the law no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

*Rom 2:13 for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the **doers of the law will be justified**;*

No one is justified by the law or doers of the law can be justified?

Boasting

*Gal 6:14 But God forbid that **I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ**, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

*2Cor 11:9-10 And when I was present with you, and in need, **I was a burden to no one**, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep myself. As the truth of Christ is in me, **no one shall stop me from this boasting** in the regions of Achaia.*

Boasting only in the cross of Christ or boasting as 'not a burden to anyone' as well?

Apostleship

*1Cor 15:9 For **I am the least of the apostles**, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.*

*2Cor 11:5 For I consider that **I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles**.*

Least of the apostles or not inferior to eminent apostles?

Bearing Burdens

*Gal 6:2 **Bear one another's burdens**, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

*Gal 6:5 For each one shall **bear his own load**.*

Bear one another's burdens or bear your own burden?

Law

*Eph 2:14-15 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having **abolished** in His flesh the enmity, that is, the **law of commandments** contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace*

*Rom 3:31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, **we establish the law**.*

Law abolished or establishing an abolished law?

Identity

*1Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save **sinners**, of whom **I am chief**.*

*1Cor 11:1 Imitate **me**, just as **I also imitate Christ**.*

Is Paul (in present tense) chief of sinners or he is like Christ asking others to imitate him?

Paul's words

*1Cor 14:37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which **I write to you are the commandments of the Lord**.*

*2Cor 11:17 What I speak, **I speak not according to the Lord**, but as it were, foolishly, in this confidence of boasting.*

Paul's words are commandments of the Lord yet he does not speak according to the Lord?

Paul's twisting of Scriptures in Romans

Paul was writing a letter to the church of Romans which he neither planted nor visited as he writes in Rom 1:10. Here, we will see how Paul is twisting Scripture to misuse and misquote it.

There is none righteous

*Rom 3:10-12 As it is written: "There is **none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.**"*

Paul writes, there is none righteous, not one.

*Ps 14:1-3 THE fool has said in his heart, "**There is no God.**" They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good. The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; **There is none who does good, No, not one.***

But the Scripture quoted by Paul was a reference to atheists.

*Ezek 14:14 "Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by **their righteousness,**" says the Lord GOD.*

God also declares Noah, Daniel and Job are righteous

Without the law, sin is not known

*Rom 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, **I would not have known sin except through the law.** For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."*

Paul writes, sin is not known without the law.

*Gen 4:7 "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, **sin lies at the door.** And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.*

Scripture says, mankind knew sin before the law. God even destroyed the whole world through a flood because of sin.

Esau was hated even before being born

*Rom 9:11-12 for the children **not yet being born**, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls, it was said to her, “The older shall serve the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I have loved, but **Esau I have hated.**”*

Paul writes that Esau was hated even before being born. It is important to understand the foreknowledge of God is not the same as election of God.

*Ezek 35:15 “As **you rejoiced** because the inheritance of the house of Israel was desolate, so I will do to you; you shall be desolate, O Mount Seir, as well as all of Edom—all of it! Then they shall know that I am the LORD.”*

*Mal 1:3-4 But Esau I have hated, And laid waste his mountains and his heritage For the jackals of the wilderness.” Even though Edom has said, “We have been impoverished, But we will return and build the desolate places,” Thus says the LORD of hosts: “They may build, but I will throw down; They shall be called the **Territory of Wickedness**, And the people against whom the LORD will have indignation forever.*

Scripture says, Esau was hated because he rejoiced in Israel’s destruction and their wickedness.

We can’t do anything for receiving God’s mercy

*Rom 9:15-16 For He says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.” So then **it is not of him who wills**, nor of him who runs, **but of God** who shows mercy.*

Paul writes, we can’t do anything for receiving God’s mercy and compassion

Exod 33:19 Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to

whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.”

*Num 12:6-8 Then He said, “Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream. Not so with My servant Moses; **He is faithful in all My house**. I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?”*

Scripture says, we must be faithful to God for receiving God’s mercy and compassion.

God can harden the heart to disobey and punish at His own will

*Rom 9:17-18 For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.” Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and **whom He wills He hardens**.*

Paul writes, God can harden the heart to disobey Him and punish for their disobedience at His own will.

*Gen 15:13-14 Then He said to Abram: “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and **they will afflict** them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve **I will judge**; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.*

Exod 7:3-4 “And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt. But Pharaoh will not heed you, so that I may lay My hand on Egypt and bring My armies and My people, the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.

Scripture says, God can harden the heart to disobey and punish for it as part of His righteous judgments for their wickedness and evil.

7000 men were reserved by grace

*Rom 11:3-6 “LORD, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life”? But what does the divine response say to him? “I have **reserved** for Myself seven thousand men who have **not bowed the knee to Baal.**” Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the **election of grace**. And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.*

Paul writes, 7000 men were reserved by grace. Otherwise, there is no reason to mention the event here.

*1 Kgs 19:18 “Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have **not bowed to Baal**, and every mouth that has **not kissed him.**”*

Scripture says, 7000 men were reserved because they did not bow to Baal and not kissed him.

Deceiving the Galatians

Here we will do a complete verse by verse study of Paul's deceptive letter to Galatians.

Galatians Chapter 1 - Apostate Paul

In this first chapter of the letter to Galatians by Paul, we will see how his teachings are heretic in nature, even going against Christ's teachings.

Not an Apostle through Jesus Christ

Gal 1:1-5 PAUL, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead), and all the brethren who are with me, To the churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

As we see here, Paul is self-appointing himself as an apostle. How do we know this?

Acts 1:21-22 "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."

The qualifications of who can be an apostle are being outlined above. Paul does not qualify for it.

Rev 21:14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

We also see Christ did not accept Paul as an apostle since there were only 12 apostles as mentioned in Revelation. Hence, clearly, Paul is not an apostle.

Paul cursing Christ and His disciples

Gal 1:6-9 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not

another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

The gospel preached by Paul is the grace of God.

Acts 20:24 “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Matt 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

However, Jesus preached the gospel of the Kingdom of God. By writing this, Paul is cursing Jesus Christ and anyone who preaches the gospel Christ preached.

Fork-Tongued Paul

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

Only a snake has forked tongue – speaking one thing to one person and another to another person.

1Cor 10:32-33 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

In the letter to Corinthians, he is writing that he pleased all men but here he isn't trying to please men.

John 8:29 “And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”

As Jesus said, we must always do things that please God.

Revelation of a Strange Gospel

Gal 1:11-12 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Paul is confessing here that the gospel he is preaching is not received by disciple or apostles of Christ, but a revelation. If this revelation is truly from Christ, then He wouldn't contradict His own teachings. However, we had seen that Paul is rejecting the teachings of Jesus Christ. This shows Paul had not clue about what Jesus actually taught but deceived many.

Paul's Jesus quotes Greek god

Gal 1:13-15 For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace

Let's try to validate Paul's claims.

Acts 9:7 And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one.

Acts 22:9 "And those who were with me indeed saw the light and were afraid, but they did not hear the voice of Him who spoke to me.

Acts 26:14 "And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

- Did the men stand as in Acts 9:7 or all fell down as in Acts 26:14?
- Did the men heard anything as in Acts 9:7 or heard none as in Acts 22:9?

As we can see, Paul's conversion testimony is contradicting each other. A matter is resolved by 2 or 3 witnesses (Matt 18:16). Here we have 3 different verses giving witness about a conversion showing that it never happened i.e., contradicting each other.

“It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” – Do you really think Jesus while speaking to Paul in Hebrew is quoting a Greek proverb spoken by Dionysus (an Olympian god) from ‘The Bacchae’ written by Euripides? I don’t think so.

Paul did not learn from Christ’s disciples

Gal 1:16-19 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord’s brother.

Paul did not go to the apostles of Jesus Christ to know more about Christ but instead went to Arabia. Also, the time spent by Paul with Peter was just 15 days. If Paul wanted to know more about the Lord, he must have spent with His disciples.

Did Paul preach the same faith which he tried to destroy?

Gal 1:20-24 (Now concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.) Afterward I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ. But they were hearing only, “He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy.” And they glorified God in me.

Is Paul preaching the same faith which he once tried to destroy? Absolutely not!

Rom 3:27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.

Matt 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Jas 2:24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

Paul's version of faith does not include any works. That's not the faith Jesus or His disciples preached. Sadly, churches today use Paul's letters to create strange faith-only doctrines which Jesus never preached.

Galatians Chapter 2 - Arrogance of Paul

In this second chapter of the letter to Galatians by Paul, we will see how he is deceiving with a false liberty of the false gospel, rejecting what Christ said in the great commission, his arrogance and lies about the law.

False Liberty of the False Gospel

Gal 2:1-5 Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain. Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

Paul had been deceiving the gentiles for 14 years and finally coming to Jerusalem not to learn from the apostles but even to deceive the apostles themselves.

What liberty is Paul preaching here and what liberty did Christ preach?

John 8:31-36 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

He who sins is a slave of sin. The liberty preached by Christ is from sin which is by abiding in His Word or obeying what He taught. However, Paul

is preaching a strange liberty which is not a liberty from sin but from obeying God. Paul even calls obedience to God is bondage.

Rejecting Great Commission

Gal 2:6-10 But from those who seemed to be something—whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man—for those who seemed to be something added nothing to me. But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

Let's see what Jesus instructed Peter and other disciples.

Matt 28:20 “teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

Christ nowhere instructed His disciples to go only to Jews after His resurrection. Nor did He indicated about another gospel for gentiles. Is Peter rejecting what Jesus taught?

Acts 10:13-15 And a voice came to him, “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.” But Peter said, “Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean.” And a voice spoke to him again the second time, “What God has cleansed you must not call common.”

God also instructed Peter to go to the gentiles as we see above. Is Peter rejecting God's vision and Christ's great commission? Absolutely not. It is Paul's letter who is using Peter's name to not only dishonor him but to exalt himself as an apostle equal to Peter, even rejecting Christ's great commission and God's vision to Peter.

Who is blaming who?

Gal 2:11-13 Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

Peter withdrew and separated himself from gentiles because of the fear of those who were of the circumcision. Is this even wrong? Why is Paul making a big fuss about it?

Let's see what Jesus did in such a situation.

Matt 12:14-16 Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him. But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. Yet He warned them not to make Him known

Jesus withdrew himself from the synagogue because of the fear of the Jewish leaders. Will the heretic Paul also blame Christ as a hypocrite?

Arrogance of Paul

Gal 2:14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

Is Paul blaming Peter for not being straightforward about the truth of the gospel and was living in the manner of Gentiles? What kind of false accusation is this?

What truth of the gospel Paul is referring to?

Acts 20:24 "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Matt 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Paul preached a strange gospel of the grace of God not preached by Christ anywhere. The grace Jesus taught is conditional (Matt 22:1-14), reversible (Matt 18:21-35) and expiring (Luke 13:6-9). Also, the gospel preached by Jesus Christ is about His Kingdom. Is Peter being accused because he didn't follow the false gospel of Paul?

Is Peter compelling Gentiles to live as Jews? Absolutely not!

Acts 15:5-9 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses." Now the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter. And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: "Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

As you can see, Peter defended the view that Gentiles were not required to be circumcised. Yet, Paul is lying here that Peter is compelling Gentiles to live as Jews.

Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Is Paul going to come down from his crucified cross to follow Christ daily? This shows Paul has no desire to follow Christ by taking his cross daily but rather pushes the responsibility to God for all his actions.

Paul's lie that law doesn't justify

Gal 2:15-19 "We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

Who said the man is not justified by the works of the law?

Luke 18:10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Jesus spoke a parable where the humble tax collector who went to the Temple was justified according to the law.

Matt 19:16-17 Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

Rev 22:14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

Didn't Jesus said to keep the commandments to enter life? Hence, Paul is clearly lying that the works of the law will no justify and having faith in Christ is enough.

Jas 2:24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone.

As James rebukes Paul's false doctrine, a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Righteousness does come through the law

Gal 2:20-21 “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

Paul is lying again that righteousness does not come through the law.

Deut 6:24-25 'And the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day. 'Then it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the LORD our God, as He has commanded us.'

Didn't the law itself says that obeying the law will be righteousness to those who obey them? Paul uses a false assumption to justify that Christ did not die in vain. This is simply untrue. Christ died to defeat death itself and now holds the keys to death and Hades (Rev 1:18). He created a new covenant with His own blood and if we are found worthy of that covenant by following Him, then we receive eternal life (Luke 20:35).

Word of Warning

It is important to note that the law was never given to gentiles at any time nor the gentiles were under it. The law doesn't promise back anything to gentiles (Isa 56:6). Many misunderstand that Jesus was speaking only of the law. This is simply untrue. Jesus was referring the law but he is also changing it to show what it means to follow the new covenant.

Matt 5:21-22 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Do not murder is the law but not even to be angry with a brother without a cause is never found in the law but of the New Covenant.

Matt 5:27-28 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Do not commit adultery is the law but not even to lust a woman in the heart is never found in the law but of the New Covenant.

John 2:19-21 Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six

years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking of the temple of His body.

Matt 12:6 “Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple.

Christ also modified the law by Himself becoming the Temple in the New Covenant. More accurately, He is greater than the Temple, thus nullifying all the laws related to the Temple purifications.

It is important to understand that Paul is rejecting the law but Christ did not. Christ’s words in the New Covenant which is stricter supersedes the law. i.e., cleansing the inside of our hearts by denying ourselves, take your cross daily and follow Him.

Galatians Chapter 3 – Paul’s lies

In this third chapter of Galatians, we will look into how Paul is lying.

Faith without Obedience is Obeying the Truth

Gal 3:1-6 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? – just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

As we saw in the earlier chapter, the gentiles were never given the law, nor they were under in anytime. Paul is writing to Galatians who seems to have been following the law. What is Paul referring to ‘obeying the truth’ and faith?

Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Matt 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Jas 2:24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

The faith Paul refers to does not include any works or anything we can do. It is a faith without obedience. To have such a faith is what Paul refers to 'obeying the truth'. Paul is laying the foundation for this lie so that he can later deceive that this faith being imputed for righteousness which does not require any obedience.

Gal 6:11-13 See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

Paul repeatedly refers to works of the law in this letter. So, what is he referring to? Is he referring to God's commandments?

Rom 7:9-11 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.

Rejecting God's commandments is not new for Paul. However, in this letter, he seems to refer circumcision as the works of the law in most instances.

Foundation of Paul's lies

Gal 3:7-9 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

Let's see what the God actually said:

Gen 17:7-11,14 "And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their

God. And God said to Abraham: “As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised; and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you. ... “And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant.”

The covenant God made with Abraham was that He will give all the land of Canaan to his descendants, not gentiles. The sign of that covenant is circumcision. Circumcision is so important that any uncircumcised male will be cut off and had broken the covenant. Hence, according to Paul, an uncircumcised gentile can become part of God’s covenant with Abraham without actually obeying the rules of the covenant, thus nullifying what God spoke.

Gal 3:10-11 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.” But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.”

Let us see what Jesus said about justification by the law.

Luke 18:9-14 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

How was the tax-collector justified in the Temple?

Lev 26:41b-42 if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt— then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My

covenant with Isaac and My covenant with Abraham I will remember; I will remember the land.

The tax-collector was justified by the law as taught by Jesus Christ himself, yet Paul lied that no one is justified by the law.

Gal 3:12 Yet the law is not of faith, but “the man who does them shall live by them.”

Is the law not of faith? Let's validate the Pharisee's statement with what Jesus Christ taught.

Matt 23:23 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

Faith is one of the weightier matters of the law. Yet, Paul again lied that law is not of faith.

Abraham's blessing and his seed

Gal 3:13-14 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

How can Christ redeem gentiles from the curse of the law, when gentiles were never under the law anytime? What exactly is the blessing of Abraham?

Gen 28:4 And give you the blessing of Abraham, To you and your descendants with you, That you may inherit the land In which you are a stranger, Which God gave to Abraham.”

The blessing of Abraham was all about inheriting the land of Canaan as promised to his descendants. It is not about receiving the promise of the Holy Spirit.

Gal 3:15-18 Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ. And

this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

Is Paul even correct in comparing Seed to Christ? The 'seed' was actually used in Septuagint (LXX).

Gen 13:15-16 for all the land which thou seest, I will give it to thee and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed like the dust of the earth; if any one is able to number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed be numbered. (LXX)

As we see in the above verse, the usage of seed simply means descendants. Hence, it is wrong for Paul to compare the seed to only Christ.

Gal 3:19-22 What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

As we already saw earlier, the 'seed' is not Christ but rather the descendants of Abraham to whom the land of Canaan was promised.

Does the law say that it would give life and righteousness by the law? Yes, indeed.

Deut 6:24-25 And the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day. Then it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the LORD our God, as He has commanded us.'

As we see above, law say that it would preserve them alive as they lived on that day and righteousness by the law, declaring Paul a liar.

Gal 3:23-25 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law

was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

As we saw earlier, the law is of faith. Paul being a Pharisee totally ignored faith in the law (Matt 23:23).

Sons of God?

Gal 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

When did Christ say that the worthy will become sons of God?

Luke 20:35-36 “But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

Those who are worthy to attain the next age are called sons of God in the resurrection, not now.

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Being children of God is not yet revealed and it is our hope. However, contrary to Paul, John teaches to purify ourselves instead of just faith in Christ.

Gal 3:27-28 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

What does Paul mean by put on Christ?

Rom 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

According to Paul's doctrine, a person is saved by faith and become a child of God. Having become a child of God, we need to be like Christ (put on Christ), and this obedience is not going to save us but we do it because we love God. This is in total contradiction of what Jesus taught.

Matt 5:28-29 “But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

Paul is teaching that you can still have lust but not to fulfill it in the flesh but Jesus taught not even to lust and even cut off the flesh to be sinless.

John 8:34-35 Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever.

Jesus does not even call a sinner as His son, but a slave who will not abide in His house forever.

Gal 3:29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Finally, Paul concludes that Abraham’s seed are the gentiles and they become Abraham’s heirs. Relating Abraham’s seed to Christ was the first mistake. He went to great lengths to explain that it is not ‘Seeds’ but ‘Seed’. Then, calling all gentiles as Abraham’s Seed. Further, gentiles become Abraham’s heirs without the need to obey the rules of the covenant which God gave to Abraham, thus rejecting what God the Father spoke regarding the covenant.

Galatians Chapter 4 - Straw man attack and Stealing promises

In this fourth chapter of Galatians, we will look into how Paul using the law as a straw man to reject what God spoke to Abraham to deceive gentile Christians with promises that are not theirs.

Straw man fallacy

Gal 4:1-7 Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a

woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Paul begins this chapter by saying, we are sons of God because Christ redeemed us from the law. What? When was the last time the gentiles were under the law? Why should Christ even require to redeem gentiles who were never under the law?

A straw man is a common form of argument and is an informal fallacy based on giving the impression of refuting an opponent’s argument, while refuting an argument that was not advanced by that opponent. One who engages in this fallacy is said to be “attacking a straw man” (Wiki)

Here Paul is using the law as a straw man. Let us explore why Paul is using the law as a straw man.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

1Pet 1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever

The first point Paul puts forward is that the gentiles become children of God through adoption because of Christ redeeming gentiles from the law. But, as we see above, Jesus and His disciples never taught adoption but being born again.

One might wonder what is the big difference. When Paul is referring to adoption, he is using it to show, the person being adopted by God cannot do anything to get adopted. This is contrary to what Jesus taught where we must be sinless for God to accept us as His children.

John 8:34-35 Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever.

1John 3:9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

According to Jesus, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. Only those who do not commit sin are His sons. This is the same explanation what John writes in his letter. Whoever is born of God does not sin.

Hence, no one is going to become children of God by adoption as Paul lied, but we being sinless before God.

Paul is upset

Gal 4:8-14 But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? You observe days and months and seasons and years. I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain. Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you. You have not injured me at all. You know that because of physical infirmity I preached the gospel to you at the first. And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject, but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

So, what did the Galatians do that made Paul upset? The text seems to suggest that the Galatians were turning back to other gods but they were following the law as we read later in Gal 4:21. However, instead of Paul showing Christ's teachings to follow, he wants the Galatians to be like him and he became like a Galatian to the Galatians. The true reason why Paul doesn't show Christ's teachings to the Galatians is because Paul doesn't know what Christ actually taught. He never referred a single parable, nothing on the life of Jesus except communion, death, resurrection and baptism. He only knew what the early Christians preached and shared among themselves.

Gal 4:15-20 What then was the blessing you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me. Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth? They zealously court you, but for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, that you may be zealous for them. But it is good to be zealous in a good thing always, and not only when I am present with you. My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you, I would like to be present with you now and to change my tone; for I have doubts about you.

Here, Paul is speaking ill of those who persuade the Galatians to follow the law. What the Galatians did is indeed wrong for they were never given the law anytime, nor they were under it anytime. However, what Paul falsely claiming a promise was also wrong which we will look deeper in the next section.

Paul's False Promise

Gal 4:21-31 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar— for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children— but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written: “Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband.” Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.” So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

While it is true that the Galatians had no reason to follow the law since they were never under it nor was it given to them at any time, the way Paul attacks the law using it as a straw man and falsely applying the promises of Abraham to the gentiles is completely wrong.

Have the gentile Christians become children of promise? Is it by faith we also become children of Abraham? Absolutely not!

Gen 17:7-10 “And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.” And God said to Abraham: “As for you, you shall keep My covenant,

you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised;

A gentile can never become a descendant of Abraham, ever. The law does not allow it nor does it have any provisions for it. Can a gentile even inherit the promise given to Abraham? Absolutely not! Even after circumcision, a gentile can neither become a descendant nor inherit any promises of Abraham reserved for his descendants. But Paul cunningly threw away the requirements of the covenant spoken by God Himself (e.g., circumcision), then made the gentiles Christians as Abraham's descendants and even applied the promises for Abraham's descendants to gentiles Christians. How far will Paul go in throwing away God's spoken words to deceive gentile Christians?

Galatians Chapter 5 - Is walking in Spirit, works?

In this fifth chapter of Galatians, we will look into how Paul teach a false liberty, revoking his own irrevocable gift doctrine, clever wrapping of disobedience with faith, calling God's covenant as leaven, rejecting the greatest commandment and the deception of walking in Spirit without we doing anything.

False Liberty

Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

What liberty is Paul talking about? Liberty from obeying God or made free from sins? Paul is talking about being free from the law. As was saw in previous chapters, Paul is using the law as a straw man argument to show that Christ freed the gentiles from the curse of the law while the gentiles were never under the law anytime.

John 8:31-36 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. "And a slave

does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Christ taught a different type of liberty. It is getting free from sin, if we abide in His Word. Being sinless is so important, without which we cannot abide in His house.

Gal 5:2-3 Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law.

While circumcision is not required for gentile Christians according to the New Covenant, the circumcised being a debtor to keep the whole law is a lie. Circumcision was given to Abraham as a sign of the covenant, even before the law was given to his descendants.

Paul revoking his irrevocable gift doctrine

Gal 5:4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

The above verse is a good example of Paul's double tongue.

Eph 4:7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Rom 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Paul writes to the church in Ephesus that grace is a gift from Jesus Christ. To the church in Rome, he writes, gifts are irrevocable. In summary, the gift of grace is irrevocable. Now, Paul writes that the irrevocable gift of grace given to Galatians can be revoked if they follow the law. What? Paul revoking his own irrevocable gift doctrine.

Let us listen to what Jesus preaches about grace.

Luke 13:6-9 He also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?' But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.'"

Grace is given only to become righteous and holy to bear fruit before being cut down. It is an expiring grace. Grace is also conditional (Matt 22:1-14) and reversible (Matt 18:21-35).

Wrapping Disobedience with Faith

Gal 5:5-8 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you.

What does it mean to be in Christ? Is it faith working through love? No.

Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

To be in Christ means, we are to take our cross daily, deny ourselves and follow Him. It is obedience, not just faith.

As we saw in chapter 3, obeying the truth according to Paul is not obedience to what Christ said, but rather, faith in Christ without obedience, otherwise, he will have something to boast. According to Paul, righteousness is a hope by faith which he eagerly awaits.

Matt 5:20 "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Rom 4:11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also,

Paul throws away all the requirements of righteousness taught by Christ to have an imputed righteousness by faith which he hopes and waits for. It is going to be a very long wait since it is never going to happen.

Sign of God's Covenant becomes leaven

Gal 5:9-13 A little leaven leavens the whole lump. I have confidence in you, in the Lord, that you will have no other mind; but he who troubles you

shall bear his judgment, whoever he is. And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased. I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off! For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Paul is calling circumcision as leaven. As we saw in the last chapter, Paul not only used the law as a straw man since gentiles were never under it anytime but stole what was promised to Abraham's descendants to deceive gentiles, even rejected the sign of that covenant which is circumcision. Not, Paul calls circumcision as leaven.

What does it mean not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh? Does he say not to sin but to love one another? This is where we need to fully understand the fundamental difference between Paul's and Christ's doctrine.

Paul's doctrine is about salvation by grace through faith (Eph 2:8-9) and we obey because we love him. Here, obedience follows salvation and it is not a prerequisite for salvation.

Christ's doctrine is about obedience (Luke 6:46) and we must obey for Him to even love us (John 15:10). We must be sinless (John 8:34-35) to enter life (Matt 5:29-30). Here, obedience precedes salvation and it is a prerequisite for salvation.

We must also understand Paul has a double tongue where he writes not sin in one letter, and in another letter, nothing we can do can save us.

Rejecting the Greatest Commandment

Gal 5:14-15 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

Is it true that all the law is fulfilled by loving our neighbor? Absolutely not. Listen to what Jesus preached.

Matt 22:37-40 Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your

neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

John 14:21 “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

Jesus taught that loving the Lord with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our mind is the first and greatest commandment. It is important to understand that “Hear” translated in English is actually “Listen and Obey” in Hebrew because Hebrew does not have a separate word for “obey”. Hence, the first commandment is obedience to God. Paul is rejecting this first and greatest commandment of obedience to God but refers the second greatest commandment of love as the fulfillment of all the law.

Matt 7:8 “For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Matt 7:12 “Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

You may think of the above golden rule in the Bible but it follows how much God gives to those who ask Him, seek Him and knock Him, and then asks us to do the same, just as God is good even to those who are evil.

Luke 14:26 “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

We must hate everything and everyone who comes in between us and God. This can even be our parents. It is important to note that the second greatest commandment of loving our neighbors cannot supersede the first and the greatest commandment of loving God. Thus, Paul deceives people by wrapping disobedience to the first and greatest commandment using the second greatest commandment.

Walking in Spirit is not what we do?

Gal 5:16-18 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the

things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Paul's version of Spirit and flesh is very different from what Christ taught.

Eph 2:1-10 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

According to Paul, walking in flesh is living according to the lusts and desires of this world. However, walking in Spirit is not obedience to God or anything we do. But rather, walking in Spirit is walking in the path prepared beforehand by God to do good works.

Rom 7:19-23 For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

We can see how Paul is walking in Spirit according to the inward man while he continues to sin with his flesh.

Mark 14:38 "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

John 6:63 “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

Christ taught that flesh is weak and it profits nothing. But He never taught flesh is against Spirit.

Matt 18:8-9 If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.

Christ neither tolerated sin in flesh nor did He teach good works being prepared beforehand for us to walk in them. It is our responsibility to be sinless, even if it takes to cut off our hands and pluck our eyes.

Works of flesh but fruits of the Spirit?

Gal 5:19-26 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

As we saw earlier, Paul's doctrine is about salvation by grace through faith and we are not saved by obedience or anything we do (Eph 2:8-9). Here, according to Paul, obedience follows salvation out of love and it is not a prerequisite for it.

This is why according to Paul, all that of the flesh are referred as “works”, or something we do and if we do these things, we will not inherit the Kingdom of God. However, all the good things prepared beforehand after we are saved by grace are referred as “fruits”, something God will work on us, and not something we do.

Luke 8:11-15 “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

John 5:28-29 “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Jesus Christ neither taught fruits of the Spirit nor did He prepared beforehand any good works for us to do. He taught fruit of the Word which is obedience to His Word and only if we do good, we have the resurrection of life.

Galatians Chapter 6 - The Magic Coat

In the sixth chapter of Galatians, Paul writes to bear one another's burden by bearing our own, lies of sowers and reapers, his boasting only on the cross of Christ plus one more, plus a few extra things and finally the magic coat deception.

Bear one another's burden by bearing our own

Gal 6:1-5 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For each one shall bear his own load.

Is Paul saying to bear one another's burden or bear each other's burden? Paul is known for his double tongue, speaking contrary to different churches. But here, Paul is speaking contrary in the next statement itself.

Paul writes sower must reap, but Jesus taught one sows and another reaps

Gal 6:6-10 Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

According to Paul, whatever a man sows, he will also reap. He is writing this with reference to sharing the word.

2Cor 9:6 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

We see this notion throughout his letters, where the sower reaping what he had sown. Here in this letter to the Galatians, Paul is teaching them if anyone sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us see what Christ taught.

John 4:35-38 Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.'

Christ taught that the one who sows will not reap. The reaper draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. This is contrary to what Paul is teaching.

Paul boasts only in the cross of Christ and a few other things ...

Gal 6:11-14 See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would

compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Is Paul boasting only in the cross of Jesus Christ? Absolutely not!

1Cor 9:15 But I have used none of these things, nor have I written these things that it should be done so to me; for it would be better for me to die than that anyone should make my boasting void.

Paul boasts about not being dependent on others in his first letter to the Corinthians. Paul boasts about Thessalonians (2Thess 1:4) and Corinthians (2Cor 9:3).

2Cor 10:8 For even if I should boast somewhat more about our authority, which the Lord gave us for edification and not for your destruction, I shall not be ashamed—

2Cor 10:13 We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us—a sphere which especially includes you.

Paul even boasts about his authority, not sure what authority is that. As far as we know, Paul is not even qualified to be an apostle (Acts 1:21). He even speaks about limits in boasting.

So, Paul boasts only in the cross of Jesus Christ, and then in his authority, his non-dependency, in Thessalonians, in Corinthians, etc.

Deception of Magical Coat

Gal 6:15-18 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

What is this new creation Paul is taking about?

Eph 2:10,14-15 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. .. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace.

Col 3:9-11 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

As you can see, Paul is not referring to a new creation, like being born again as taught by Jesus and His disciples who will never sin (John 8:34-35; 1John 3:9) but rather, a new creation created by Christ Himself and we just need to put on like a magic coat for us to be in Christ.

Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. ... Eph 4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Putting on this magic coat of new man created by Christ is not by obedience or anything we do or through any work, but by grace through faith, a magical righteousness, and holiness. What a deception!

Where does Paul's deception lead?

Many ignore the contrary teachings of Paul as just a misunderstanding of Paul's letters. Here we will look deeper into the false doctrine of Paul and how it leads many astray from the true doctrine of Christ. This is so important because these doctrinal differences can cost salvation.

Paul's easy path to pseudo-salvation

According to Paul, Christians are saved by God's grace through faith and not by any works they do (Eph 2:8-9). The only thing that is required for salvation is faith in Jesus Christ (Rom 10:9-10). This excludes their effort to be righteous otherwise it will not be grace and counted as debt (Rom 4:4). This doesn't mean they aren't righteous because faith is imputed for righteousness (Rom 4:5). All the other good works they do are work of God in them for His good pleasure (Phil 2:13).

This is one of the reasons Paul uses the analogy of adoption where God adopts Christians for which they can't do anything to get adopted (Gal 4:5).

Jesus Christ's difficult path to true salvation

According to Jesus, we must be counted worthy by God to attain salvation (Luke 20:35). To become worthy, we must practice righteousness that exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees to enter the kingdom of Heaven (Matt 7:21-23; Matt 5:20). Jesus is very serious about the requirement of being righteous and holy (Rev 3:4-5). We are required to be sinless to abide in His house (John 8:34-35). Jesus even taught to cut off anything that causes us to sin to become righteous and holy. This includes even our own eyes, hands and feet (Matt 18:8-9). The way that leads to life which Jesus taught is through a narrow gate and difficult path (Matt 7:13-14).

This is one of the reasons Jesus uses the analogy of born again where we are required to be born of God (John 1:13; John 3:5), being without sin (John 8:34-36).

Conclusion

The difference between Christ's and Paul's doctrine is huge.

The summation of Paul's doctrine is about salvation by grace through faith and we obey because we love him. Here, obedience follows salvation and it is not a prerequisite for salvation.

Christ's doctrine is about obedience (Luke 6:46) and we must obey for Him to even love us (John 15:10). We must be sinless (John 8:34-35) to enter life (Matt 5:29-30). Here, obedience precedes salvation and it is a prerequisite for salvation.

Those who follow Paul's teachings will have faith but no works required by Christ to enter life. These followers of Paul will insist on the grace of God from Paul's letters. They teach that God will make them righteous by imputing their faith when they are saved and transform them slowly to be Christ-like. They teach that no one can be holy and righteous as expected by God, hence they are clothed by His righteousness by just having faith.

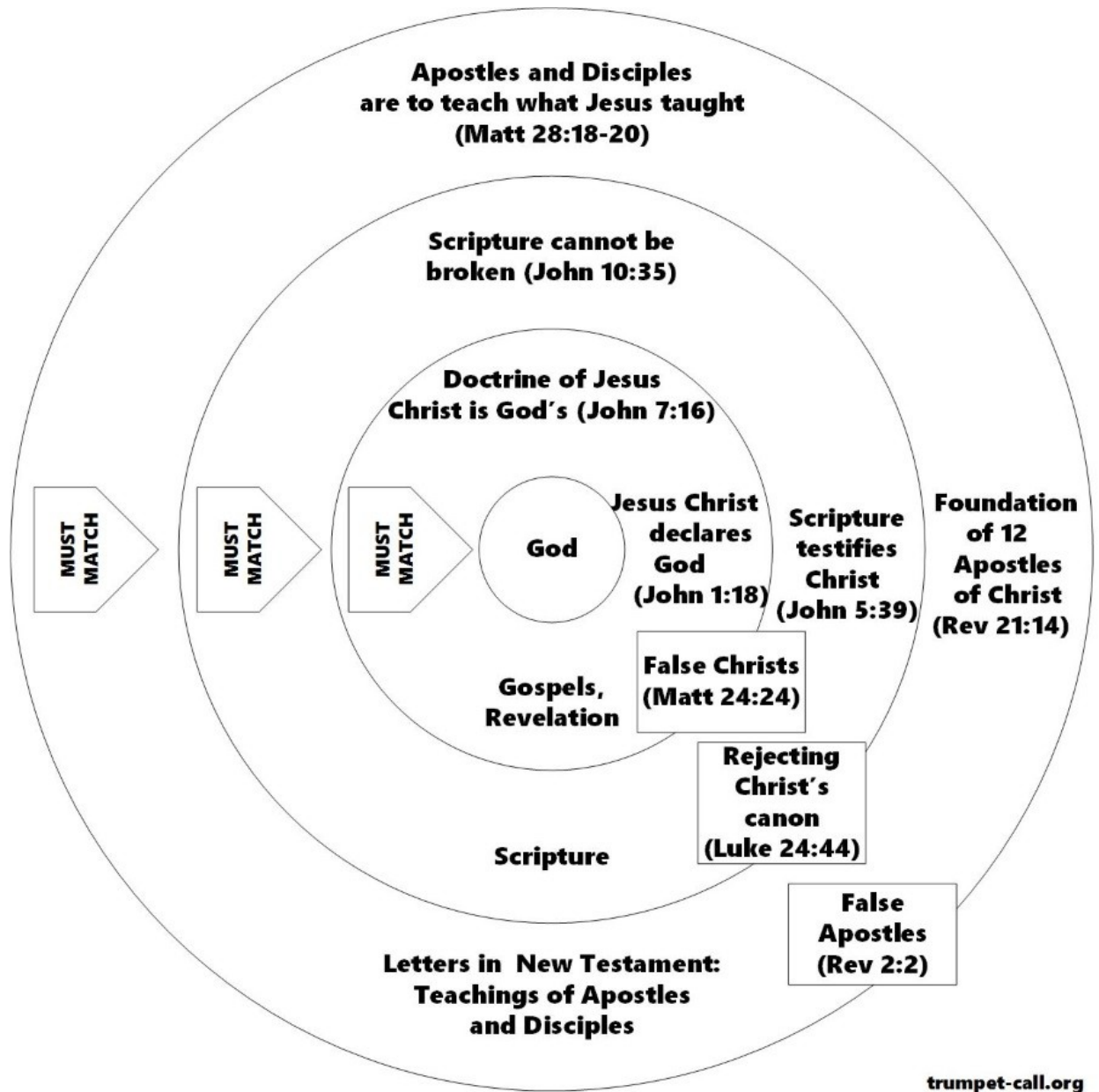
Those who follow teachings of Christ will have faith with works and obey what Jesus taught. They insist on the requirement of each one's righteousness and holiness to enter life. Unless a person is fully transformed to be born again by not sinning anymore, they cannot be saved. They teach that Jesus came into this world, living a normal life in the flesh as a human showing that man can live holy and righteous as expected by God. It is only because of our righteousness and holiness we will be allowed to enter into His kingdom.

Bibliography

- All Scripture verses are quoted from New King James Version (NKJV).
- Cover Page picture adapted from The Apostle Paul, Icon of a Deesis tier from Ubisi, 14th century.

Statement of Faith

Being a Protestant Christian, it is easy for me to simply say, I believe the Bible. But, there are lots of different interpretations of the Bible and several deceptions without sound doctrine which created thousands of denominations. Hence, I had put forward a Circle of Discernment to discern every interpretation from the Bible to avoid deceptions.



Source: File: Circle-of-Discernment.png - trumpet-call.org

Circle of Discernment is another way of saying, all interpretations must match God's spoken words, Christ's teachings, Scripture (Law, Psalms and Prophets) and the teachings of apostles and disciples in the authoritative order. If you cannot find the conclusion of your interpretation taught by Christ, or found in Scripture, or spoken by God in the authoritative order, then your interpretation is wrong. Similarly, if you interpret Scripture that does not agree with Christ, then your interpretation is wrong.

Christ did not give anyone authority to change His canon of Scripture (Luke 24:44-45). He included only 28 books from the Christian Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, I & II Samuel, I & II Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi and Psalms. Just like there are weightier matters of the law (Matt 23:23), Gospels and Revelation are the weightier books in the New Testament. We need to listen and obey Christ's teachings for which Father will require of all who reject His Words spoken through His Son (Deut 18:19). It is blasphemy to exalt and glorify a man's letter and make it equal with Christ's words.

About the Author

Felix Immanuel is a born-again Christian, trying to live a Christ-like life. He is a software professional who write blogs in Trumpet-Call.org focused on the spiritual growth of Christians. God had blessed him with his wife and two daughters.