

## Exploring Galatians – Study 3 – Set Free for Slavery

Read Gal 1: 10.

Read 1 Cor 9:19-23.

What is the charge leveled against Paul by the “Judaizers”?

What does it mean to seek people’s approval? Is it wrong?

Read Gal 6:14. What is boasting? Is it wrong?

R.C.H. Lenski observes, “like a flash the questions” in verse 10 “reveal the charges the Judaizers had launched against Paul in order to discredit him and his gospel. They alleged that Paul toned down the rigorous legal requirements of the original gospel in order to gain the approval of the Gentiles, to make the gospel palatable to them, to curry favor with them. In his ambition to build churches and to gain a great following he had emasculated the gospel and stripped it of essential parts.”<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Knight, George. Exploring Galatians & Ephesians (Kindle). Review & Herald. Kindle Edition.

Read Gal 1:9, Gal 3:1, Gal 4:8-11. How does Paul counter the charge against him?

When and how is it appropriate to defend ourselves?

Why does Knight say the “Judaizers” are the real people pleasers? Why are their arguments so subtle?

“In actuality, it is the Judaizers who want to please other people. Playing to their audience back home in Jerusalem, they had presented themselves as those who had the “real truth” as opposed to Paul with his wishy-washy emphasis on grace and faith. Such individuals would be heroes to a certain type of Christian who wanted to be faithful to what they saw as the straight testimony of the old ways.”<sup>1</sup>

Read Gal 5:14-15, Matt 22:37-40 and Rom 13:8-10. What is the foundational principle of all our Obedience and Relationships?

“We must never forget that it was strict law keepers who put Jesus on the cross because He didn’t uphold the Sabbath according to their expectations”<sup>2</sup>

Read Gal 4:9 and Gal 5:1. Compare to Gal 1:10. What is the contrast Paul is highlighting about being a Slave or Servant. Discuss what this means?

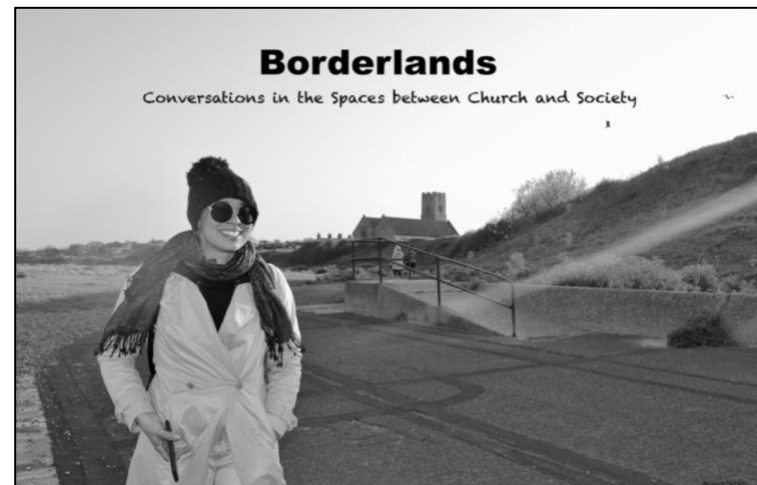
**Summary:** “How can we recognize the true gospel? First, it is the gospel of grace, of God’s free and unmerited favor. Whenever teachers start exalting humanity, implying that we can contribute anything to our salvation by our own morality, religion, philosophy or respectability, the gospel of grace is being corrupted. Second, the true gospel is the New Testament gospel. The norm by which all systems and opinions are to be tested is the gospel which the apostles preached, and which is now recorded in the New Testament. Anyone who rejects the apostolic gospel is to be rejected”<sup>3</sup>.

The popular view is that there are many ways to God and that the gospel changes with the changing years. Do you agree with that? How could you answer that using Paul’s perspective in these verses?

---

<sup>2</sup> Knight, George. Exploring Galatians & Ephesians (Kindle). Review & Herald. Kindle Edition.

## Announcements



**Website** <http://greatyarmouth.adventistchurch.org.uk> Or <https://greatyarmouth-adventistchurch-org-uk.adventist.eu>

## Prayer Requests

<sup>3</sup> Stott, J., Larsen, D., & Larsen, S. (1998). Galatians: Experiencing the Grace of Christ (pp. 12–13). Nottingham, England; Downers