

Galatians 1:6-10

**FAKE NEWS**

# Surprising an Apostle

- Paul has established his authority as an official representative of Christ in the opening of his epistle (Gal 1:1-5; cf. 1 Cor 14:37).
- The Galatians learned the gospel from Paul yet are turning from the grace of God (Gal 1:6; cf. Heb 7:12).
- Shock best describes the feeling of the apostle concerning the failure of his converts. Why are the Galatians abandoning divine favor (Gal 1:6)?!

# Another Gospel?

- Paul describes the “gospel” to which the Galatians were turning as different (Gal 1:6-7; cf. *heteros/allos*).
- The counterfeit gospel of the false teachers deny apostolic authority, reduce outside opposition, and engender pride (Gal 1:6). (Sound familiar?)
- The effects? Trouble and distortion! Christians must expose error to preserve genuine fellowship (Gal 1:7; cf. 5:10; 1 Kgs 18:17-18; Eph 4:1-6).

# Anathema!

- Paul highlights the gravity of the situation with two "if-then" (conditional) statements (Gal 1:8-9).
- The Greek word "anathema" (ASV/KJV) means "accursed." The end of the curse is destruction (Gal 1:8-9; cf. Rom 9:3; 1 Cor 16:22; Num 21:3 LXX).
- Christians excommunicate false teachers, handing them over to God, to promote repentance (Gal 1:8-9; cf. 5:12; 1 Cor 5:4-5; 1 Tim 1:18-20).

# Pleasing God or People?

- The opponents of Paul are seemingly accusing him of pleasing people, not God, with his gospel that did not demand judaizing (Gal 1:10; cf. 1 Thess 2:3-6).
- Paul reverses the charges, contending that the false teachers are people-pleasers (Gal 1:10; cf. vv. 8-9).
- False "gospels" and "evangelists" avoid hard subjects because they value human more than divine praise (v. 10; cf. John 12:42-43; 1 Cor 10:32-33; 9:19-23).