

Message Notes

Pastor Dave Gudgel

Date: September 24, 2017

Bible Focus: Galatians 1:10-24

Current Series: Free (A Study in Galatians)

Message Title: Called Into Question

1. _____
Galatians 1:10 - Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ.

2. _____
Galatians 1:11-12 - I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. ¹² I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

3. _____
Galatians 1:13-24 - For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. ¹⁴ I was advancing in Judaism beyond many Jews of my own age and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵ But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not consult any man, ¹⁷ nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went immediately into Arabia and later returned to Damascus. ¹⁸ Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Peter and stayed with him fifteen days. ¹⁹ I saw none of the other apostles--only James, the Lord's brother. ²⁰ I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie. ²¹ Later I went to Syria and Cilicia. ²² I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. ²³ They only heard the report: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." ²⁴ And they praised God because of me.

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Galatians 1:10-24

1. Think of a time in your life when your work, motives, or words were called into question. How did you feel? How did you deal with the situation?
2. List as many reasons as you can for why living to please God is better than living to please man. How do you see the difference playing out in Paul's life and ministry?
3. If the message that Paul received firsthand was called into question, how should we expect people to respond to the Gospel message we declare to others? What can we do to strengthen our assurance of the message we share? How can we help others trust the authority of the Scriptures we share?
4. On more than one occasion Paul shared his God-story. In addition to the passage we studied today, his compelling story is found in Acts 22:6-21 and Acts 26:1-32. What does this tell you about the importance of Paul's testimony? From what you have learned in our study so far in Galatians, why did Paul tell his God-story to the church at Galatia?
5. How can the story of God's calling in your life encourage and strengthen your faith? Especially when facing hardship?
6. In what ways does this message relate to your life? How will what we learned help you press on when hardship hits?