**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Gospel of Grace |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Galatians 1:6-12 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2166 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. In the generation in which we live, we think that we are making progress, but we do not know where we are going.
      1. In the things that really count, we are not making progress through civilization, science, learning, or technology.
   2. People have three great enemies:
      1. Sin
      2. Sorrow
      3. Death
   3. What has civilization done about sin?
      1. The only thing civilization has done about sin is to re-label it.
         1. A thief is now an embezzler.
         2. A drunkard is now an alcoholic.
         3. No longer is a person sinful; he is morally challenged.
      2. We have not made any progress in the matter of sin.
   4. We have not made any progress in the matter of sorrow.
      1. Suicide has reached epidemic proportions.
      2. Mental institutions are filled and overcrowded.
      3. We do not know what to do with those who have broken minds, broken hopes, and broken hearts.
   5. We have not made any progress in the matter of death.
      1. We may have postponed it a little; but from the time that Cain murdered his own brother, all of us have been hurt by death.
      2. We have tried to camouflage death.
         1. A coffin is now called a casket.
         2. No longer is a person an undertaker; he’s a mortician.
         3. No longer is it a graveyard; it is a memorial park.
      3. We have not changed the facts about death.
   6. There is no answer for sin, sorrow, and death apart from the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
      1. There are those who want to offer some other answer, but there is no other answer.
   7. The devil has tried to pervert the Gospel.
      1. Galatians 1:6-12
         1. In this passage, “let him be accursed” literally means “let him be damned.”
      2. He perverts the saving Gospel by what we call “the social gospel.”
         1. Many churches are not telling people how to be saved.
            1. They’re telling people to do good, to feed the homeless, clothe the naked, and heal the sick.

Anyone who is saved ought to do those things.

But this is not the Gospel.

* + - * 1. If we do these things and do not preach the Gospel, then all we are doing is making the world a better place to go to Hell from.
      1. There is no social gospel.
         1. There is only a saving Gospel which is the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
    1. Another perversion of the Gospel is New Age occultism.
       1. This has the idea of reincarnation.
  1. There are people in our churches today who have never met Gospel truth.
     1. Churches are filled with those who try to do good but who have never really been saved.
  2. We are materially rich in America but morally poor because people do not know the Gospel.
  3. In today’s message, we will look at five facts about the Gospel of grace, the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

1. the satanic opposition to the gospel: satan fought it (galatians 1:6-9)
   1. Satan fought the Gospel in Paul’s day, and he is fighting the Gospel in our day.
   2. Galatians 1:6-7
   3. Satan is a pervert.
      1. He has no raw material.
      2. All he can do is take what God has created and twist and pervert it.
         1. God made everything, and sin is a perversion of that which is good.
   4. Rather than deny the Gospel, Satan had rather pervert the Gospel.
      1. If people will accept a synthetic gospel, then they will never see their need for the real Gospel.
      2. Look at the religious world today:
         1. Anyone can make up a list of things they want to believe, ways they want to act, and somewhere they will find a church in today’s society where they will fit right in.
         2. To some, the Gospel is like a cafeteria line:
            1. They take what they like and the amount that they like.
            2. They do not take what they do not like.
            3. Then, they have a do-it-yourself religion.
         3. There are people who are looking for a religion that suits them.
            1. But they had better find one that suits God.
   5. When it comes to Gospel truth, there can be no compromise.
      1. In the things that count for eternity, why should we not stand up for that which is truth?
   6. Galatians 1:8-9
      1. Our natural sensibilities say that this is unkind, intolerant, and that there is room for everything in religion.
         1. If one way is right and only one way, then all the other ways are wrong.
   7. Galatians 1:7
   8. Many people in churches today do not know what they really believe.
      1. People have no idea what the Gospel of Jesus Christ is, and they could not give the Gospel truth if they were asked to.
         1. This is not talking about a Baptist gospel, a Presbyterian gospel, a Methodist gospel, etc.
   9. The only way anyone is going to go to Heaven is through the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. the settled origin of the gospel: god thought it (galatians 1:8-9, 11-12)
   1. Galatians 1:11-12
   2. What is the origin of the Gospel?
      1. It came from Almighty God.
         1. The Gospel is not man’s invention.
      2. It comes by divine revelation.
   3. When it comes to the Gospel, we need to put our intellect and emotions to the side and pick up the Bible.
      1. Many times, we take the Word of God and parade it past the bar of human reasoning and judgment.
      2. Some may think it does not seem right that there is only one way to be saved and that all other ways are wrong.
         1. This is not logical to them.
         2. So, they try to bring human ingenuity, wit, and wisdom against the Gospel.
            1. If this does not work, then they bring their emotions.

They say that it does not feel right to them.

* + 1. When it comes to the Gospel, it does not matter what we think or what we feel.
       1. It is what God says that counts.
       2. Many people make the tragic mistake of going by their feelings rather than going by God’s Word.
  1. There is the divine origin of the Bible.
     1. We are not looking for a new and modern Gospel for a new and modern age.
        1. If it is new, then it is not true.
     2. Galatians 1:8-9
        1. Paul was saying that if any new revelation comes, then it is not of God.
        2. If anyone says that there is a new Gospel or if an angel appears with a new message from God, then we are not to believe it.
     3. The Gospel is settled once and for all.
        1. There are some who have the idea that religion is changing.
           1. Because we live in a new day and age, they think that we need a new Gospel.
        2. It is not the messenger that validates the message; it is the message that validates the messenger.
           1. If someone is not preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, then that person is a false prophet and the wrath of God is upon him.
  2. Paul did not receive the Gospel from man, and neither was he taught it.
     1. It came by revelation.
        1. God thought it; it was in God’s mind.

1. the sacrificial obtainment of the gospel: jesus bought it (galatians 1:3-7)
   1. How did we get the Gospel?
      1. Jesus bought it.
         1. He obtained it with His blood.
   2. Galatians 1:7
   3. How did Christ buy it?
      1. Galatians 1:3-5
      2. The Gospel was purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.
         1. It is the Gospel of the cross.
         2. It is the Gospel of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
   4. The Gospel centers in Christ.
      1. It is not a Gospel that simply mentions Christ or alludes to Him.
      2. It is the Gospel of Christ.
      3. Many churches today are filled with people who have never been saved.
         1. They have never had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ.
            1. They have met a creed but not Christ.
            2. They have met a cause but not Christ.
            3. They have met a code but not Christ.
            4. They have met a church but not Christ.
            5. Do you know Jesus Christ?
      4. Galatians 1:7
         1. It is not just the Gospel that brings Christ in; it centers in Him.
         2. When the Apostle Paul wrote this, the pagan people had many gods.
            1. Rome was not a destroyer of religions, but it brought all the religions together and syncretized the religions of the world.

We cannot do that with Jesus Christ.

It is not “Jesus and”; it is “Jesus or”.

* 1. It is Jesus only.
     1. Acts 4:12
     2. John 14:6
     3. If Jesus Christ is not the only way, then He is none of the ways because He would be a liar and an imposter.
        1. He was the one who said that He was the only way.
           1. We cannot just tip the hat to Jesus Christ.
           2. We have to bow the knee to Jesus Christ.
     4. Many Christians in Paul’s day could have saved their lives if they had said that Jesus was just one of the ways to Heaven.
  2. Galatians 1:3-4
  3. If there had been some other way for us to be saved apart from the death of Jesus Christ on the cross, then God would have taken it.
  4. Acts 4:12
  5. Romans 1:16
     1. God Himself is powerless to save apart from the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
        1. God is a Holy God, and sin must be atoned for.

1. the saving operation of the gospel: grace wrought it (galatians 1:5-6, 15)
   1. It is called the Gospel of grace.
      1. Galatians 1:6
   2. Grace causes God to love people like us.
      1. We are vile, unworthy, sinners by nature, sinners by birth, sinners by choice, and sinners by practice.
   3. Why are we saved by the grace of God?
      1. It is a seeking grace.
         1. Paul talked about the grace that sought him.
            1. Galatians 1:15
            2. When Paul was saved, he was not seeking Jesus.

Jesus was seeking Him.

Acts 9:3-6

* + - 1. The only reason we seek the Lord is because He first sought us.
         1. Romans 3:10-11
      2. We have a hunger and thirst for God because He gave it to us.
         1. The thirst for God that is in us is a gift of God.
    1. It is separating grace.
       1. Galatians 1:15
          1. It pleased God to do this.
       2. When God came into the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve sinned, He called out to Adam.
          1. Genesis 3:9
          2. That wasn’t the voice of a detective but the voice of a loving God.
          3. God is seeking you today.
    2. It is saving grace.
       1. Galatians 1:16
       2. Ephesians 2:8-9
          1. Grace is the free gift of God.
       3. We are not saved by joining a church, being baptized, singing in the choir, or just by going to church.
          1. We are saved by the grace of God.
       4. Works do not save, and works do not help save.
          1. Romans 11:6
          2. We cannot mix grace and works.
          3. Baptism, prayers, or anything that we do cannot take away our sin.
    3. It is securing grace.
       1. We have eternal security because we are saved by grace.
          1. If we were saved by works, then we would lose our salvation when our works fail.
          2. Grace can never fail.
       2. Galatians 3:3
          1. The Spirit that has saved us is the Spirit that is going to perfect us and carry us all the way through.
       3. Some people believe that they can lose their salvation.
          1. If Jesus were to just show us how to be saved, then He would be an example.
          2. If Jesus were to just tell us how to be saved, then He would be an instructor.

We don’t need an example or an instructor; we need a Savior.

* + - * 1. If Jesus were to rescue or save us and then throw us overboard for not doing something right, then He would not be a savior but a probation officer.
      1. Jesus is a Savior.
         1. We are thankful for His example and His teaching, but He is a Savior.
    1. It is sufficient grace.
       1. It is all we will ever need.
          1. We will not run out of the grace of God.
       2. 2 Corinthians 9:8
       3. God’s grace is never insufficient.
    2. It is surviving grace.
       1. Galatians 1:5
       2. The Bible says that in the ages to come, the saved will be trophies of God’s grace.
          1. We will be in glory because of the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1. the singular obsession with the gospel: Paul taught it (galatians 1:9-10)
   1. Galatians 1:9-10
   2. Paul was obsessed with the Gospel.
      1. It was a divine obsession.
   3. We all have a desire to please people.
      1. We all want to please.
      2. But we should be like the Apostle Paul who said that it didn’t matter whom he pleased if he displeased God.
      3. If we try to please everyone, then we are going to please the devil most of all.
   4. Paul loved the Galatians, but he was obsessed with the Gospel and was not trying to please them.
      1. Paul was not trying to please the Galatians or the civil authorities in Rome.
      2. Paul knew that it was Jesus, not Caesar, whom He had met on the road to Damascus.
      3. Government cannot make us good; only Jesus can make us good.
         1. We need to pray for our government officials, but only Jesus can pave the way to Heaven.
         2. We have to please the Lord Jesus.
            1. Christians ought to be involved in politics, and we need to be able to tell all political parties to repent and get right with God.
            2. Moses didn’t try to please Pharaoh.
            3. Elijah didn’t try to please Ahab.
   5. Paul was not trying to please the false teachers.
      1. There are false teachers around today.
      2. The way to get along with everyone is to never mention true doctrine.
      3. Galatians 1:9
   6. Paul was not trying to win a popularity contest.
      1. If we want to be unpopular today, then preach that there is only one way to Heaven and it is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
   7. Paul did not try to please his own family.
      1. Paul was a Jew and was raised according to strict laws.
         1. Galatians 1:13-14
      2. They thought that Paul had betrayed them and left them.
         1. They were not pleased with Paul.
   8. The Apostle Paul had a singular obsession with the Gospel.
      1. He preached the Gospel no matter whom it displeased.
2. CONCLUSION
   1. The saving Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Gospel of grace.
      1. Satan fought it.
      2. God thought it.
      3. Jesus bought it.
      4. Grace wrought it.
      5. Paul taught it.
      6. We are to stand on it.
   2. If you will receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then He will dramatically change you.
      1. He will save you and keep you saved.
      2. If you are truly saved, then you will want to acknowledge Christ as your personal Savior.
         1. Mark 8:38
   3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   4. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16