

Galatians 3:1-3

¹ You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? ² This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Ever since the days when the Apostle Paul was speaking to the Galatians here, man has worked feverishly to replace the saving power of Jesus Christ with works. A number of years ago, a young woman asked me if I would baptize her. I asked her why she wanted to be baptized, and she said so that she could go to heaven. I went on to explain to her that baptism alone cannot save anyone. She became offended, and went on to tell me that her minister back home said that it could. For far too long, the church has tolerated the heresy being taught from its pulpits. Men and women, who have no relationship with Jesus Christ, are teaching that there are many paths to heaven. I believe that they are right in that there are many paths, but it is not to heaven, rather it is to hell. To an outsider, it seems that the church has become polarized. But, is that true? The answer is, no! The church of Jesus Christ has not become polarized, nor does it have multiple personalities. The truth is, there is only one church, and anything that is taught outside of the truth of God's Word, is deception and a lie. So how does one know what truth is, concerning God and His Word. First of all, anything that teaches that there is any other way to heaven other than the blood of Jesus Christ is a lie from the pit of hell. Yet, are there differences of interpretation on other aspects of doctrine, yes? But the glue that holds everything together is Jesus Christ and Him alone. Nothing can save any of us from an eternity of torment and utter hopelessness, except for the life, death, and resurrection of the Son of the Living God!! Your money can't save you, being baptized alone can't save you, helping the poor can't save you, building a home for Habitat for Humanity can't save you. In fact, your pastor can't save you, your parents or grandparents, etc... Nothing can save any of us but the power of Jesus Christ. So why is it that people can go to church for years and never hear the name of Jesus, except at the end of a prayer? Have we evolved in the church today, where we no longer need to teach about our Lord? Have we become more concerned with our own agendas, than in seeing the lost saved from hell?

Church, I am convinced that we are not only living in the last days, but that we are quite possibly living on borrowed time. If ever we all need to lay down our differences and unite under the banner of Jesus Christ, it is today. Our nation is heading on a downhill slope straight to hell; and for many of us, our pride and stubbornness is blinding us of the obvious dangers ahead. Our focus must be to get back to Jesus Christ, if we are to have any hope of ever having an impact on the lost in our generation. Too often people come to church looking for peace and answers, only to discover all of the discord and contention within. What each of us needs is revival. We need the Holy Spirit to move through our churches and across our land. We need to get back to our 'First Love'. Just as in the book of **Ezekiel**, we need life to come back into our dead bones. This nation has had several great moves of God in our history, and today we are ripe for a new one. The question is, "Is the church willing to pay the price, to seek God for another one"? Or to be more specific, "Are you willing, to pay the price"?