

A WARNING AGAINST 'VAIN WORSHIP'

In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men - Matt15:9

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatian churches from house arrest in Rome in his final days before being executed under Emperor Nero. He wrote the epistle as a matter of the greatest urgency and with pastoral care that they return to the narrow way to the believer's Eternal Inheritance which is Christ ALONE, exactly according to the scriptures ALONE (1Cor15:3,4; Isa8:20).

But religion in its various guises always tries to augment the *"simplicity which is in Christ"* (2Cor11:3) with man-made ideas, rules and practices. They *"teach for doctrines the commandments of men"* (Matt15:9). Don Fortner wrote, *"Our only authority is the Word of God (2Tim3:16-17). Our doctrine is false doctrine, if it is not the doctrine of Holy Scripture. Our ordinances of worship are an abomination to God, if they are not the ordinances established by our Saviour, performed as he performed them. And all prescribed religious duties, in what people call 'practical godliness', are but acts of ungodliness if they are not prescribed in the New Testament. We must never allow ourselves to be put in subjection to the commandments of men (Col2:16-23; 1Tim1:1-6; Tit1:14; 1Thess5:22)."*

In his epistle to the Galatians, Paul was denouncing the error of Pharisaical Judaizers which had drawn believers away from the truth nearly 2,000 years ago; but be on guard TODAY because much of what claims to be the gold-standard of biblical gospel truth is not far from their error. And we should ask, *"Lord, are we prone to the same fault? If so, show us where and guide us away from it."*

AJ

GOD FORBID ME TO GLORY SAVE IN THE CROSS

Every religious person is going to glory in something. He will glory in his pedigree, his morality, his gifts, his office, his revelations, or his sufferings. But with a strong, *"God forbid,"* Paul made a clean sweep of all these grounds for boasting declaring, *"I will glory only in the cross of Christ."*

You know, without me having to tell you, that he wasn't referring to a tree, a necklace, or a symbol on a church steeple, but to the great atonement of our Lord. He was referring to the substitutionary, vicarious suffering of Christ, as revealed in the glorious gospel, which came from the cross.

How I wish that today's religion would totally abandon the superstitious use of crosses and begin once again to preach the true cross of Christ, which is the gospel of his glory! H T Mahan

THE ISRAEL OF GOD - GAL6:16

The peace and mercy of God rests upon that people identified by Paul as *'the Israel of God'*. Israel was the name given to Jacob (Gen32:28) to signify the sinner made the righteousness of God in Christ; so every sinner (Jew or Gentile) trusting Christ, calling upon his name, is confirmed as belonging to the Israel of God. It is the sins of this Israel only that shall not be found in the Day of Judgment (Jer50:20).

But there is an Israel according to the flesh of which some *could* be members of the Israel of God, but (Rom9:6) *"they are not all Israel (the Israel of God) which are of Israel (according to fleshly descent)"*. The political nation of Israel in the middle east today, and all Jews who reject the Lord Jesus Christ, are not of the Israel of God as it is defined by the Word of God.

AJ

Biblical Gospel Church

Preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ - Ephesians 3:8

www.biblicalgospelchurch.org

Meeting at:

Burton Community Centre

93 Sandy Plot

BH23 7NH

If you are not able to meet with us at the hall, watch us LIVE via the internet at:
[YouTube.com/@biblicalgospelchurch](https://www.youtube.com/@biblicalgospelchurch)

Sunday 15th February 2026
10:30 am (GMT) Service

Galatians 6:11-18

"Glorying in the Cross"

Traditional worship with hymns, prayer, Bible readings
and a sermon based on a passage of the Bible

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Psalm 125

65 to 310

W Tucker

1 Expand, my soul, arise and sing
The matchless grace of Zion's King;
His love, as ancient as his name,
Let all thy powers aloud proclaim.

2 Chosen of old, of old approved,
In Christ eternally beloved;
Adopted too, and children made,
Ere sin its baleful poison spread.

3 Though sin and guilt infest them here,
In Christ they all complete appear;
The whole that justice e'er demands
Received full payment from his hands.

4 In him the Father never saw
The least transgression of his law;
Perfection, then, in him we view;
His saints in him are perfect too.

5 Then let our souls in him rejoice,
As favoured objects of his choice;
Redeemed, and saved by grace, we sing
Eternal praise to Christ our King.

Prayer

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:18

Prayer

919 to 431

T Kelly

1 We sing the praise of him who died,
Of him who died upon the cross;
The sinner's Hope let men deride;
For this we count the world but dross.

2 The cross, it takes our guilt away;
It holds the fainting spirit up;
It cheers with hope the gloomy day,
And sweetens every bitter cup.

3 It makes the coward spirit brave,
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;
It takes its terror from the grave,
And gilds the bed of death with light.

4 The balm of life, the cure of woe;
The measure and the pledge of love;
The sinner's refuge here below;
The angels' theme in heaven above.

Sermon

564 to 182

W Gadsby

1 Dear Lord, forbid that we should boast,
Save in the cross of Christ,
Here may we confidently trust,
And solemnly rejoice.

2 A triune God is here displayed
In all his glorious hue;
Here sinners may approach and live,
Behold and love him too.

3 Here we have power to plead with God,
And call the Lord our own;
With pleasure view our Father sit
Upon a smiling throne.

4 Lose sight of Jesus and his cross,
And soon we fall a prey;
Our lust and pride, by power or craft,
Will carry us away.

5 But when, by faith, the cross we view,
Such is its mighty power,
Though earth and hell unite with sin,
We conquer and adore.