

Galatians 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

Analysis

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Paul's shock is palpable—thaumazō (θαυμάζω, "I am astonished") expresses bewilderment at their rapid defection. "So soon" (houtōs tacheōs) emphasizes shocking speed of apostasy. They are abandoning not mere doctrine but "him that called you"—deserting God Himself.

The verb metatithes (μετατίθεσθε, "you are being removed") uses present passive, suggesting ongoing desertion and external influence. They are victims of deception while remaining responsible. God's call came "into the grace of Christ" (en chariti Christou)—grace is the sphere of salvation. To abandon grace for law is to abandon Christ.

"Another gospel" (heteron euangelion, ἕτερον εὐαγγέλιον) uses heteros (fundamentally different kind) not allos (another of same kind). Paul will clarify (v. 7) this isn't another valid gospel but a perversion. There is only one gospel; alternatives are anti-gospels.

Historical Context

The Galatians' susceptibility to Judaizers reflects their cultural background. Celtic tribes were known for impulsiveness and volatility. Having recently converted from paganism or syncretistic Judaism, they lacked theological grounding to recognize subtle error. The Judaizers likely arrived shortly after Paul's departure, presenting

themselves as representing Jerusalem apostles and "completing" Paul's teaching. Their message seemed reasonable: Scripture commands circumcision; the Messiah came to fulfill, not abolish, the law; Jerusalem leaders still observed Torah.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What false gospels (grace plus performance, Jesus plus politics, faith plus self-help) tempt you toward desertion?
2. How can established believers recognize when they're drifting from grace-centered faith toward works-centered religion?
3. Why is theological discernment essential, not optional, for persevering faith in a climate of competing messages?

Interlinear Text

Θαυμάζω	ὅτι	οὕτως	ταχέως	μετατίθεσθε	ἀπὸ	τοῦ
I marvel	that	so	soon	removed	from	G3588
G2296	G3754	G3779	G5030	G3346	G575	

καλέσαντος	ὑμᾶς	ἐν	χάριτι	Χριστοῦ	εἰς	ἕτερον
him that called	you	into	the grace	of Christ	unto	another
G2564	G5209	G1722	G5485	G5547	G1519	G2087

εὐαγγέλιον

gospel

G2098

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 11:4 (Parallel theme): For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Isaiah 29:13 (Parallel theme): Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

Psalms 106:13 (Parallel theme): They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel:

1 Timothy 1:3 (Parallel theme): As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,

Acts 15:11 (Grace): But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

1 Corinthians 4:15 (References Christ): For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

Romans 10:3 (Parallel theme): For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Galatians 5:4 (Grace): Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

1 Timothy 1:14 (Grace): And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

2 Thessalonians 2:14 (References Christ): Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.