

## Galatians: Appendix: Closing Thoughts

February 09, 2025

### Series: Galatians: Treasuring the Gospel of Grace

#### Today's Message: The Sufficiency and Glory of God the Father and of Jesus Christ; Galatians 1:1-12; 2:20-21; 6:12-16

Have you noticed how McDonalds will add new items to their menus. But in the end, the original menu items, the foods that made McDonalds famous, remain the top sellers. According to 'chefsresource.com,' McDonald's fries are still the top seller and second to the fries is the Big Mac.

McDonald's is at liberty to add to their menu as they please. But Galatians teaches us that no one, not even well-meaning people, are at liberty to add to the message of the Gospel of God. As we read Galatians 1 this morning it become apparent that while you may add items to a menu you cannot add anything to the gospel. Paul used words like "deserting," "different gospel," "no gospel at all," "confusion," "pervert the gospel," "eternally condemned, (2x)" to drive the point home. For the fact that they were adding to the gospel he accused them of being "bewitched" and "foolish" in Galatians 3:1,3.

Paul wrote the Galatians to rescue these Galatians from believing a false gospel. We benefit from the warnings Galatians to guard ourselves from becoming bored with the simplicity of the message—that is of the grace of God displayed through the person and work of Jesus Christ. Paul's concluding words in Galatians 6:14 still resonate with true believers today, and forms a solid confession: "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

Christians are being distracted today by many teachings which are contrary to Scripture. Many so called teachers display a boredom with God and His gospel of grace and either knowingly or incidentally, through their teaching distract followers of Jesus from standing in awe and wonder of the sufficiency of Christ alone for the glory of God alone.

Today this message is intended to cause you to savor the glory of God and the sovereign fullness, worth, dignity, delight and pleasure of God in Christ. If God the Father finds pleasure in Christ, so should we. I hope that you will be pricked in the heart and made willing to forsake all your Christless pursuits and pursue with relentless zeal the glory of God in Christ!

We will look at many Scriptures today that should fuel your passion for Christ alone in four ways: 1) To know that no one loves, values or cherishes the Son more than the Father; 2) To know that Christ must become our highest and best pursuit; and 3) To know that Christ must become our Everything leaving no room for anything in addition to Him.

#### l) **To know that no one loves, values or cherishes the Son more than the Father.**

##### A) The Father and the Son have the most unique relationship: The Father and the Begotten Son

##### 1) The Son is begotten, not created

(a) John 1:1-3; John 1:14

##### (i) The Son is the eternal radiance and image of the invisible God:

(a) Hebrews 1:3, "The Son is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact representation (image) of His being, (eternally) sustaining all things by His powerful word."

##### 2) The Father and the Son share a most incomparable communion in perfect unity.

(a) Matthew 11:27, "No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son."

(b) John 10:30, "I and the Father are One." They share the most intimate fellowship together.

##### 3) Every secret, every thought belonging to the Father is fully possessed by the Son!

- (a) John 5:20, "The Father loves the Son, and shows Him all that He Himself is doing."
- 4) Every purpose and possession of the Father is perfectly entrusted to and cherished by the Son.
  - (a) John 3:35, "The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in His hands."
  - (b) Matthew 28:18, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me."
- 5) The Father is delighted to exalt the Son to the Highest place above all things in heaven and earth.
  - (a) **See Ephesians 1:21-22; Philippians 2:9-11; Colossians 1:18-19**
- B) Paul argued in Galatians that Christ plus nothing equals everything! Is this true for you?
- II) **To know that Christ Jesus must become our best and highest pursuit because He is the Source.**
  - A) He is our only Source of Salvation by grace through faith in His blood for our redemption.
    - 1) Ephesians 1:7, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom..."
  - B) He is our Source of eternal life (eternal, blessed, full quality of life forever!)
    - 1) John 10:10, "The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life (zoe life, eternal life) and have it to the full."
  - C) He is our Source of God's grace, goodness and blessing.
    - 1) Romans 8:31b-32, "...If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?"
  - D) He is our Source for power and strength for doing His will in all circumstances of life.
    - 1) Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Him who gives Me strength."
    - 2) Ephesians 3:16, "I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner man."
  - E) Paul taught the sufficiency of Christ in everything and strongly warned the Galatians against seeking anything else as a substitute or addition to Christ alone, particularly regarding justification for sin.
- III) **To know that Christ must become our Everything leaving no room for anything in addition to Him.** He is the most complete, incomparable, unrivaled Sovereign over all things. He has Supremacy in all things!
  - A) Colossians 1:15-20 provides a picture of His Supremacy for our edification and focus.
    - 1) 1:15: He is the image/ radiance of the glory of God. First in rank, preeminent over all things.
    - 2) 1:16-17
      - (a) He is the Creator of all things in heaven and on earth. He has authority over all things because He is the Creator of thrones or powers or rulers or authorities. By Him and for Him!
      - (b) He is the nuclear glue holding all things together, sustaining all things by His Word (Heb.1:3).
    - 3) 1:18
      - (a) He is the Head of His body the Church.
      - (b) He is the beginning and first born from the dead.
      - (c) He has Supremacy in all things. Preeminence in all things!
    - 4) 1:19: God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him; see also 2:9 fullness of deity in body!
    - 5) 1:20: Reconciler. Reconciling all things "to Himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, making peace through His blood, shed on the cross."
      - (a) Whereas Adam lost title and deed to earth, bringing all things on earth into ruin and misery (see Romans 8:18-21), Christ Jesus destroyed the works of the devil, and reclaimed all things on earth and in heaven reconciling all things to Himself by way of His shed blood on the cross.
        - (i) Paul's boast in the cross of Christ is expansive as we see in both Col. 1:15-20 and Romans 8 as well as all of Paul's writing. Nothing in addition to Christ is needed!
  - B) Ephesians 1:22-23: He is Sovereign over all things, even His Church, and much more! **He fills everything in every way!**
    - 1) There is no other Source, No other Sustainer, no other Salvation than can be found in Jesus Christ. No wonder Paul was so concerned for the Galatians. We must be single minded in our fidelity to the sufficiency and glory of God the Father and of Jesus Christ and seek no other!