

## The Preaching That Makes the Church Run Well

Gal. 5:7; 1:6-12

### Introduction:

- A. The Galatians had “run well,” but were now hindered:
  - 1. By those who preached a perverted gospel – probably Judizers (1:6-7)
  - 2. By people (“who”), not things (“what”).
- B. Christians must run well as individuals and congregations.
- C. Only the gospel that Paul (and other apostles) preached can make us run well.
- D. Let us look at some characteristics of the gospel that Paul preached:

### Discussion:

#### I. It Was *Revealed* (v. 12).

- A. Apostles and prophets received it by revelation (Gal. 1:11-23; Eph. 3:3-6)
  - 1. Claimed direct revelation, but anyone can claim it.
  - 2. Confirmed direct revelation by objective supernatural proof (Heb. 2:3,4; cf. Matt. 9:1-8).
- B. The rest of us received it from their preaching (Gal. 1:8, 9; cf. 1 Cor. 1:21)

#### II. It Was *Narrow* (vv. 8,9).

- A. It allowed people to follow only *one* God, *one* Lord, and *one* Spirit (Eph. 4:4-6)
- B. It brought people together in *one* faith and body by *one* baptism (cf. Eph. 4:16; 1 Cor. 12:13).
- C. It produced in people *one* hope (cf. 1 Cor. 15:19-24; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)

#### III. It Was *Pure* (v. 7).

- A. Perverted gospel transforms it “into something of opposite character” (Vine)
  - 1. “Sun turned (perverted) into darkness” (Acts 2:20)
  - 2. “Laughter turned (converted) into mourning (Jas. 4:9)
  - 3. Another, yet not another (cf. Same ax)
- B. Perverted gospel produces perverted results.
  - 1. A perverted God = Idolatry, Non-punishing, Uninvolved, All tolerant.
  - 2. A perverted Lord = An earthly king, personal savior to all who call him Lord.
  - 3. A perverted Spirit = Direct operation and guidance.
  - 4. A perverted baptism = Sprinkling and pouring.
  - 5. A perverted faith = Mormonism, humanism, modernism.
  - 6. A perverted hope = premillennialism, social gospel, date-setters.
  - 7. A perverted body = Catholic, protestant, liberal, etc.

### Conclusion:

- A. Begin to run well by obeying the gospel that Paul preached.
- B. Continue to run well by obeying the gospel that Paul preached.