

Some Common Perversions of the Gospel

Gal. 1:6-9

Introduction:

- A. One must be careful not to pervert the gospel – a perversion makes it the same as another.
 - 1. By wresting (twisting) the Scriptures (2 Pet. 3:16)
 - 2. By adding to or subtracting from Scriptures (Rev. 22:18-19)
- B. We propose to show that much that is taught and practiced in the name of the gospel and the scriptures is really a perversion of the gospel that apostles preached:

Discussion:

I. The Perversion of the Teaching of the Scriptures on Baptism.

- A. Scriptural teaching
 - 1. An immersion in water (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; John 3:23; Acts 8:36-39)
 - 2. Part of gospel plan of salvation (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; 22:16)
- B. Popular present day teaching
 - 1. Sprinkling and pouring.
 - 2. Good to do, but put part of salvation.

II. The Perversion of The Teaching of the Scriptures on Church Worship.

- A. The teaching of the Scriptures (Eph. 5:19; 1 Cor. 14:15; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2).
- B. Popular present day alternations:
 - 1. Instrumental music, candle lighting, burning incense.
 - 2. Lord's supper other than every first day of week.
 - 3. Money raising projects.

III. The Perversion of The Teaching of the Scriptures on Church Work.

- A. The teaching of the Scriptures (Eph. 4:16; Phil.4:15; 2 Cor. 11:8; 1 Cor. 16:1,2).
- B. Popular present day additions:
 - 1. Social services programs.
 - 2. Recreational programs.
 - 3. Political action programs.

IV. The Perversion of The Teaching of the Scriptures on Church Organization.

- A. The teaching of the Scriptures — local organization (Acts 14:23; Phil 1:1; 1 Pet. 5:1-4).
- B. Popular present day organizations:
 - 1. Above the local level.
 - 2. On the local level.

V. The Perversion of The Teaching of the Scriptures on Church Unity.

- A. The teaching of the Scriptures — One body based on truth. (John 17:19-21; 1 Cor. 1:10-13; Eph. 4:1-6; 2:16; ; Jas. 3:17).
- B. Popular present day concept:
 - 1. “Good to have church of choice” - sanctifies division.
 - 2. “May differ in doctrine, but all serve same God”
 - 3. “Lay aside doctrinal differences and become one “fellowship” (cf. 2 John 9-11)

Conclusion:

- A. If we follow the New Testament we will be united – neither Catholic nor Protestant — just Christians.