



Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father; to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and turning to a different gospel – not that there is another gospel, but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we preached to you, let him be accursed.

As we have said before, so now I say again, If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed. (To The Galatians 1:3-9 RSV)

We label them Judaizers, who taught that Christian converts were obliged to observe circumcision and other prescriptions of the Mosaic Law. They repudiated Paul's statements to the contrary by denying the legitimacy of his apostolic calling. Paul vigorously defended his credentials as a true apostle of Jesus Christ and provided important autobiographical information in the process. He reaffirms his teaching that the Law is fulfilled and that a return to Jewish practices would therefore be unfaithful to Christ. Though Christians have a new freedom, they have no license to sin; rather, they assume a responsibility to live lives in accord with the Spirit of God.

Colossians 1:19-23; I Corinthians 1:22 -2:8; Galatians 3:1-7; Philippians 3:17-19; Ephesians 2:14-22.

- a) Paul's gospel is from God – not any man.
 - 1) It is not to be adjusted or amended.
 - 2) Changes are perversions not differing opinions.
- b) *According to the will (mind) of God.*
 - 1) The atonement “as creation.”
 - 2) The atonement as “God’s mind.”
 - 3) The atonement and reconciliation.
 - The curse of tampering???
 - Be careful what you teach/preach.

Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the man by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.
 (Matthew 18:6-8 RSV)