

"Leaving God behind"

Galatians 1:6-9.

A Formula For Spiritual Disaster

- **Galatians 1:6-7** – “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, **7** which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.”
- **Galatians 5:4** – “You have become estranged from Christ, you who *attempt to* be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”

Desertion of God

- **Galatians 1:6** – “I am astonished that you are so quickly **deserting** the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel.” (NIV)
- **Galatians 3:1** – “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth,”
- They had deserted God by deserting his gospel.

Distortion of the Gospel

- **Galatians 1:7** – “there are some who trouble you and want to pervert (distort) the gospel of Christ.”
- **Galatians 5:2** – “Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing.”

Distortion of the Gospel

- Why would they distort the gospel?
 - **Galatians 2:4** – To bring others into bondage (power).
 - **Galatians 4:17** – They do it to cause others to seek them (ego).
 - **Galatians 6:12** – “to make a good showing for themselves in the flesh
 - **Galatians 6:12** – To avoid rejection/persecution from the Jews for the sake of the cross of Christ.

Disregard For The Truth

- The cause of the Galatians' confusion/desertion.
- **Galatians 1:8** – “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.”
- **II Corinthians 11:13-14** – “For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. **14** And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

Disregard of the Danger

- **Galatians 1:9** – “As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, **let him be accursed.**”
- **Acts 20:29-30** – “For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. **30** Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.”

Decision to Honor God/Gospel

- **Romans 2:4** – “Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?”
- **II Timothy 2:25** – “in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,”