

“Crucified With Christ”
Galatians 2:11-21
7/9/23
Message 3

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Crucified With Christ”

- **Before the Cross of Christ**

- **1st Thousands of years before Jesus Christ Sacrifice**
 - Death on the Cross –
 - To pay for man’s SINS
 - God foreshadowed His perfect sacrifice
 - Through the sacrificing of Animals.
- **2nd At Creation & The FALL OF MAN**
 - After the SIN – Fall of MAN
 - God Instructed Adam (Later Moses)
 - Animal Sacrifice
 - The offering of an animal sacrifices
 - To temporarily Atone (Cover) man’s sins
 - So God could have a relationship with man
 - The sacrifice of a ram, goat, lamb, or other animal
 - Never had power to forgive and cleanse sin permanently —nor was it ever meant to.

- They were only meant to bring temporary coverings
- This is why that had to be done all the time
- These Sacrifices
 - ONLY Pointing to the TRUE and ONLY Sacrifice of Jesus on the CROSS
- **3rd From the Beginning – Man has tried to come to God in his OWN WAY**
 - OT Illustrations –
 - Men have taken 2 paths
 - God's Way or Their way
 - Cain = Wrong Way
 - When Cain offered his sacrifice of grain to the Lord
 - He brought the WRONG kind of offering and offered it in the wrong spirit.
 - Rather than bringing an animal sacrifice as God had commanded
 - He brought the fruit of his own labor
 - Cain's was the first act of works-righteousness
 - The forerunner of every such act since his time.
 - So Catch this
 - Every person of every era who has tried to come to God on the basis of his own merits and works, or by some humanly designed

religious prescriptions, has followed in the unbelieving, rejecting steps of Cain.

- Abel = Right Way
 - Abel, on the other hand, by obediently offering the blood sacrifice God required
 - God accepted his offering not because it had any spiritual benefit in itself but because it was presented in faith and obedience.
- Nimrod = Wrong Way
 - The builders of the tower of Babel followed the unbelieving and rebellious way of Cain
- Noah = Right Way
 - Noah and his family followed the believing and obedient way of Abel.
- Many Others throughout the OT = Wrong Way
 - Too many examples to talk about
- Abraham = Right Way
- NT Illustrations
 - The Judaizers = Wrong Way
 - The same OLD Lie
 - That a person can be GOOD on their own
 - That Works can gain favor with God.
 - Yes – Jesus, BUT...

- You must add the Law of Moses – Circumcision
- Apostle Paul = Right Way
 - JUSTIFICATION by GRACE & FAITH ALONE

• **Review**

- **The Letter was sent to**
 - The area known as Galatia
 - Not to one church
 - BUT several churches
 - Like to the churches in Northern Cal
- **Purpose for The letter**
 - **Address False Teachers that Slithered in**
 - Known as Judaizers (Legalist)
 - **To Confront the Evil lies of the Judaizers**
 - Salvation by WORKS
 - Christ plus the Law of Moses – Circumcision
 - **Paul confronted them!**
 - Stood up for Salvation By GRACE & FAITH ALONE
 - **Why Legalism is so popular to our flesh**
 - Why do people choose Legalism over Grace?
 - Legalism is more Appealing to OUR flesh

- The Flesh
 - Wants to EARN something
 - Wants to believe that there is good in me
- Faith in Christ requires
 - Repentance & Humility
 - Since Christ did it all
 - This is hard on my ego!
 - If faith can be reduced to regulations
 - I can feel good about my accomplishments.
- Legalism is more Natural!
 - Most of our human experiences says
 - You get what you work for!
 - Nothing is free in this world!
- Legalism is more Manageable!
 - It is easier to do certain well-defined duties
 - Then exercise a life-changing faith.
- Legalism appears to be – More - Safe!
 - Freedom is dangerous
 - Leaving matters up to the Holy Spirit and the individual's Convictions
- Legalists are right in that Control is needed.

- BUT They are wrong about where the control must come from!
- Outward Restrictions
 - Are ineffective in creating moral living!
- Inward Convictions
 - Come from being empowered by the H.S.
 - TRUE CHANGE IN A PERSON'S LIFE COMES FROM THE INSIDE OUT - NOT FROM THE OUTSIDE IN
- **Paul' Defense**
 - The Judaizers
 - To UNDERMINE Paul's Authority
 - To UNDERMINED Paul's Teaching
 - So Paul Defends
 - The Gospel of GRACE not of Works
 - His Apostleship
 - Galatians 1:10 is central to our text again

Galatians 1:10 (NKJV)

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

- Paul will now illustrate his defense again
 - With the confrontation of Peter
 - He will also defend - Justification by Grace and Faith Alone

- **Now This Morning 4 Critical Truths in Being Crucified With Christ**

- The Reason For The Confrontation vs. 11-13
- The Rebuke Paul Gave vs. 14-16
- The Reasoning Paul Makes vs. 17-18
- Remember Our Identification In Christ vs. 19-21

The Reason For The Confrontation vs. 11-13

- **First: Because It Was Appropriate v. 11**

- **1st Now when Peter had come to Antioch v. 11a**

Galatians 2:11 (NKJV)

11 Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed;

- **Antioch**

- Located some 200 miles North of Sidon
 - Antioch was a major pagan metropolis
 - The third largest in the Roman Empire, behind Rome and Alexandria.
- The location of the first Gentile church (Acts 11:20-21)

- **Peter**

- Briefly - Shows Peter KNEW what was right
 - Peter approved of Paul's gospel and ministry when Paul came to Jerusalem (Galatians 2:9)
 - God has already used Peter himself to welcome Gentiles into Christianity without the precondition of becoming Jews (Acts 10-11)
 - Acts 15

Acts 15:7–11 (NKJV)

7 And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them:
“Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that
by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.

8 So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy
Spirit, just as He did to us,

9 and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of
the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall
be saved in the same manner as they.”

- **2nd I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed v. 11b**

Galatians 2:11 (NKJV)

11 Now when Peter had come to Antioch, **I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed;**

- **This shows how serious the matter was to Paul (GOD)**
 - He had a Public Confrontation with Peter over the issue!
 - Peter’s conduct in Antioch produced a tense face-to-face confrontation between two Christian leaders.
 - Paul felt compelled to rebuke and condemn Peter for his actions
- **The Reason we see it in verse 12**
 - The issue of eating together
 - Before the certain men came from James
 - Peter would eat with the Gentiles.
 - Yet once they came,
 - Peter withdrew and separated himself.

▪ To be Blamed

- Blamed – Greek: Kata-ginōskō
- Means: Against, To know
 - Better translated - “Stood Condemned.”
 - AKA = Peter knew better
 - Peter was guilty of sin by aligning himself with men he knew to be in error

▪ Lesson

- There are - Times to Confront
 - When Truth is on the LINE with other believers we need to confront the issue
 - We STAND on God’s Word – NO Matter what
 - We never sacrifice TRUTH For PEACE
 - Peace will COMES with TRUTH – to those who want to hear and follow
- Illustration
 - Wokeness in the church
 - We must be educated in their evil doctrine
 - We Must be able to defeat their evil doctrine
 - We must be willing to stand for TRUTH in a “church” culture that is following the lies
 - Illustration

- Zephyr Letter
- How
 - Face to Face if possible
 - Always with GRACE, LOVE & TRUTH
 - Always In hope that restoration can happen

- **Second: Because Of His Attitude v. 12**

- **1st He withdrew and separated himself v. 12a**

Galatians 2:12 (NKJV)

12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision.

- Again - Peter was previously in agreement about the gentile
 - With welcoming Gentiles into the church without bringing them under the Law of Moses
- These men
 - Who are these men?
 - Christians of Jewish background.
 - Paul called them certain men... from James and those who were of the circumcision.
 - NO DOUBT Knowing their background
 - Peter knew they would be offended at his fellowship with Gentiles who had not come under the Law of Moses.
 - In their eyes, these uncircumcised Gentiles were not really Christians at all.

- Therefore
 - To please them and to avoid a conflict
 - Peter treated these Gentile Christians as if they were not Christians at all.
- Lesson
 - Critical we get this in our day
 - ALL MEN are welcomed at the foot of the CROSS
 - No one should be shunned
 - **2nd Fearing those who were of the circumcision vs. 12b**

Galatians 2:12 (NKJV)

12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, **fearing those who were of the circumcision.**

▪ **FEAR?!**

- Really – FEAR
- The Fear of Man brings a snare

Proverbs 29:25 (NKJV)

25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Galatians 1:10 (NKJV)

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

- Out of FEAR - Peter acted against what he knew was right.

- What caused Peter to fear these men?
 - We don't know
 - Perhaps they were men of
 - Strong personality.
 - Great prestige and influence
 - Maybe they made threats of one kind or another.
 - Whatever it was, the desire to cater to these legalistic Jewish Christians was so strong
- It is easy to criticize Peter
 - But we have ALL done something that is wrong before
 - God gave Peter many chances and He gives us many Chances
 - BUT we MUST NEVER FEAR MAN –
 - The way to do this is FEAR GOD

• **Third: Because Of Peter's Affect v. 13**

- **1st The rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him v. 13**

Galatians 2:13 (NKJV)

13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

- **Played the hypocrite... carried away with their hypocrisy:**
 - Hypocrite - Greek: Sunupokrínomai
 - Means:

- To Pretend
 - Join in pretending
 - To play the hypocrite with someone
 - To an actor who wore a mask to depict a mood or certain character.
- In the spiritual sense
 - It refers to someone who masks his true character by pretending to be something he is not (Matt. 6:1–6).
 - We say we were committed to the gospel of grace
 - But pretended to accept Jewish legalism
- Lesson
 - It's the pretending part that get us
 - If we say we are ONE way but live a live that contradicts that – that is were the trouble comes in
 - If we say – I am allowing the Spirit to do a work in me – and I am not yet completed
 - Sincerity / Genuine
- **2nd So that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy v. 13b**

Galatians 2:13 (NKJV)

13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

- Our Sin affect others

- This shows that the matter was bigger than just Peter and Barnabas.
- Peter first made the compromise!
- Then Barnabas followed him.
- Then the rest of the Jews at the church in Antioch
- **This shows what a heavy responsibility it is to be a leader.**
 - When we go astray, others will often follow.
- **Lesson**
 - 1st We MUST STAND on God's Word – TRUTH
 - NO matter what happens
 - 2nd Watch your actions –
 - They may pull people in the wrong direction

The Rebuke Paul Gave vs. 14-16

• First: His Challenge v. 14

- 1st But when I saw that they were not straightforward v. 14a

Galatians 2:14 (NKJV)

14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

- **Not Straightforward –**
 - Greek: orthopodéō;

- Means:
 - Contracted, Standing upright, which is from orthós
 - To walk uprightly, correctly, carefully. Used figuratively in Gal. 2:14.

▪ Lesson

- Action Speak Louder than Words
- We MUST be STRAIGHT with the Gospel – Souls are at stake
- 2nd I said to Peter before them all v. 14b

Galatians 2:14 (NKJV)

14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, “If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?”

- Sin Commented Publicly
 - Callout Publicly
 - Why – Peter and Barnabas sin effected the Whole church
 - Must be dealt with
- Confrontation must have been HARD
 - Knowing who Peter was
 - Peter was the most prominent of all the disciples of Jesus.
 - Knowing who Paul was

- Paul was known more for his persecution then his ministry
- As hard as this was,
 - Paul did it because he knew what was at stake.
 - Souls – TRUTH
- It may be Hard for us
 - We Must be able to stand and do the HARD things Jesus Asks us to do
 - Leave the results to HIM
- **3rd Peter's hypocrisy in appearing to live under the law v. 14c**

Galatians 2:14 (NKJV)

14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

- If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews:
 - Paul first reminded
 - Peter that he himself did not live under strict obedience to the Law of Moses.
 - "Peter, you eat bacon and ham and lobster.
 - You don't keep a kosher diet.
 - Yet now, before these visitors, these certain men... from James
 - Now you act as if you keep these laws all the time."

- SO - Why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?

- **Second: His Concern vs. 15-16**

- **1st We who are Jews by nature v. 15**

Galatians 2:15 (NKJV)

15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,

- Paul seems to be using irony here.
 - Did not Peter's conduct betray a lingering conviction concerning the superiority of the Jews, and the despised position of the Gentiles
- BUT Paul
 - Is going to make his case now for justification being by grace rather than works.
 - He begins by contrasting Jews & Gentiles.
 - The Jews were the ones God delivered the Law to.
 - If anyone ought to have been justified by it, it would be those to whom it given.
 - But justification isn't by the law, as Jews believers had come to realize.

- **2nd Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law v. 16**

- **1st Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law v. 16a**

Galatians 2:16 (NKJV)

16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

- The LAW does not SAVE (Justify)
 - A strictly observant Jew such as he was could never be considered right before God by what he did under the Law of Moses.
 - The LAW CANNOT SAVE
 - The Purpose of the LAW
 - Show us God's Holy Standards
 - That we could NEVER match up
 - Show us our need for a Savior
- NOTE - The LAW is still good
 - God Righteous Standard
 - It shows us our SINFULNESS and our need for God
- **2nd That we might be justified by faith in Christ v. 16b**

Galatians 2:16 (NKJV)

16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

- Justification
 - What is JUSTIFICATION
 - Justified – Greek: Dikaioo –
 - Means:

- To show or declare someone to be “right”
- Justification = Just As If I’d Never Sinned.
 - But Wait there is More...
 - But this does not go far enough.
 - *MacDonald’ “When God justifies the believing sinner, He not only acquits him from guilt but clothes him in His own righteousness and thus makes him absolutely fit for heaven. “Justification goes beyond acquittal to approval; beyond pardon to promotion.” Acquittal means only that a person is set free from a charge. Justification means that positive righteousness is imputed.”*
 - HOW? - Believing in Jesus

Romans 4:3 (NKJV)

3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

• **Sanctification Process**

- God Sees us as Already DONE
- But we MUST work OUT what He worked in – Walk Worthy of
- **3rd For by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified v. 16c**

Galatians 2:16 (NKJV)

16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; **for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.**

- No flesh –
 - NOT Gentile, NOT Jewish
 - Will be considered right before God by the works of the law

The Reasoning Paul Makes vs. 17-18

• **First: Remember The Context v. 17**

- **1st Its “Justification by Faith”**
 - Look at vs. 16 again
 - How is someone saved?
- **2nd But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ v. 17**

Galatians 2:17 (NKJV)

17 *“But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not!”*

- Follow Paul’s Logic
 - If the Judaizers’ doctrine was correct
 - Then Paul, Peter, Barnabas, and the other Jewish believers fell back into the category of sinners
 - Because they had been eating and fellowshiping with Gentiles
 - Who according to the Judaizers were unclean. minister of sin.
 - If the Judaizers were right
 - Then Christ was wrong and had been teaching people to sin

- Because He taught that food could not contaminate a person (Mark 7:19; Acts 10:13–15).
- He also declared that all who belong to Him are one with Him and therefore each other (John 17:21–23).
- Paul's logic condemned Peter
 - Because by his actions he had in effect made it appear as if Christ was lying.
- Certainly NOT
 - To his own question Paul immediately responded - Certainly Not!
 - Jesus could NEVER participate in, much less promote, sin.
 - So either Christ is a liar – or they are

• **Second: Notice His Concern v. 18**

- **1st For if I build again those things which I destroyed v. 18**

Galatians 2:18 (NKJV)

18 For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.

- If he were to build again a way to God through keeping the Law of Moses,
- Then he would make himself a transgressor!

Remember Our Identification In Christ vs. 19-21

• **First: The Law Has No Jurisdiction v. 19**

- **1st For I through the law died to the law**

Galatians 2:19 (NKJV)

19 For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

- Paul made a BOLD statement!
 - If he was dead to the law
 - Then it was impossible for the law to be the way that he stood accepted by God.
 - It wasn't the law that died, but Paul died to the law.
 - The LAW CANNOT SAVE
 - Turn to Romans 7:1-4

Romans 7:1–4 (NKJV)

1 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

• Second: My Life Is In Christ v. 20

- **1st I have been crucified with Christ v. 20a**

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

20 **I have been crucified with Christ**; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

- The believer is identified with Christ in His death!
 - When Christ was Crucified

- I was Crucified with Christ
- What this means
 - I NO LONGER LIVE
 - This means the end of me as a sinner in God's sight.
 - NO More Performance Treadmill
 - Attempting earn my salvation by my own efforts.
 - I am NO Longer a child of Adam
 - I am a Child of Jesus
- Hear this
 - If you are IN CHRIST
 - There is NOTHING you can do to make yourself MORE righteous with God – NOTHING
 - He sees you through His SON – Perfect
 - Now we are still working on sanctification
- **2nd It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me v. 20b**

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

- Since we died with Christ
 - We NO Longer live for Ourselves
 - My LIFE belongs to Jesus

- Illustration
 - My own experience 1995
 - **3rd And the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith v. 20c**

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

20 *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

- This Life is Still live in the (HUMAN BODY)
 - Were still alive
 - BY FAITH Paul can only manage the new life Jesus gave him by faith.
- BUT Now we live the life in the Human Body BY FAITH
 - BY FAITH - The new life Jesus gave him by faith.
- Faith means
 - Reliance or Dependence.
 - That FAITH is IN JESUS
 - Continual dependence on Christ
 - By yielding to Him
 - By allowing Christ to live His life in him.
- **4th In the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me v. 20d**

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

20 *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

▪ **In the SON**

- The Object of our faith is JESUS
- Not in good works, not in keeping the law, not in faith for faith sake BUT in Jesus

▪ **Who LOVED – LOVES ME – US**

- SO MUCH SO that HE Himself for me
- He took MY SINS – Gave me His Righteousness

• **The Conclusion v. 21**

○ **1st I do not set aside the grace of God v. 21a**

Galatians 2:21 (NKJV)

21 *I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”*

- Paul concluded his public confrontation with Peter with strength!
- I DO NOT set aside GRACE

○ **2nd If righteous comes through the law v. 21b**

Galatians 2:21 (NKJV)

21 *I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”*

- If we Can EARN Salvation
- Then Jesus died in VAIN

- Everything Jesus did was in VAIN
- His WHOLE purpose was/is the Cross
- It truly is amazing –
 - How the enemy attempts pulls people away from the cross
 - To Good works
 - Feel good programs
 - Entertainment
 - We JUST NEED THE CROSS

Closing

- Only One Life, Twill Soon Be Past - by C.T. Studd
 - Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
 - Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
 - Only one life, yes only one,
Soon will its fleeting hours be done;
Then, in 'that day' my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgement seat;
 - Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
 - Only one life, the still small voice,

Gently pleads for a better choice
Bidding me selfish aims to leave,
And to God's holy will to cleave;

- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
- Only one life, a few brief years,
Each with its burdens, hopes, and fears;
Each with its clays I must fulfill.
living for self or in His will;
- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
- When this bright world would tempt me sore,
When Satan would a victory score;
When self would seek to have its way,
Then help me Lord with joy to say;
- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
- Give me Father, a purpose deep,
In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;
Faithful and true what e'er the strife,
Pleasing Thee in my daily life;
- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
- Oh let my love with fervor burn,
And from the world now let me turn
Living for Thee, and Thee alone,
Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne;
- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,

- Only what's done for Christ will last.
- Only one life, yes only one,
Now let me say, "Thy will be done";
And when at last I'll hear the call,
I know I'll say "twas worth it all";
- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
 - Only what's done for Christ will last.
- Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.
And when I am dying, how happy I'll be,
If the lamp of my life has been burned out for Thee.