



Pembroke Bible Chapel  
2011 April 17  
Galatians Message #18  
Speaker: Mark Floyd

## **THE TROUBLE OF FALSE TEACHING**

(Galatians 5:7-12)

### THE HINDERED RACE (7-8)

- the Galatians had “run the Christian race” well – justified by faith, they also trusted in Christ for their spiritual growth (7; *1 Cor 9:24; Php 3:14; 2 Tim 4:7; Heb 12:1*)
- men came amongst them teaching that faith in Christ was insufficient – they needed Jewish traditions (*Gal 1:7*)
- these “Judaizers” were a hindrance to the Galatians (7); their teaching was causing believers to turn away from Christ (*Gal 1:6*) – this teaching was not from God (8)

### BEWARE OF LEAVEN (9)

- leaven (yeast) symbolizes the corrupting effect of false doctrine intermingled with the true doctrine of Christ (*Mt 16:6-12*)

### PAUL’S CONFIDENCE (10-12)

- Paul had confidence that: (1) the Galatians would share his convictions and (2) those troubling them would ultimately come under God’s judgement (10; *Gal 1:8; 2 Pet 2:1-3*)
- Paul’s teaching on circumcision changed when he trusted in Christ (*Rom 2:28-29; Php 3:2-3; Col 2:10-11*); he now preached Christ crucified – an offense to those who trust in themselves (11; *1 Cor 1:23*)
- His wish was that false teachers would be “cut off” from the Galatian believers (12; *Deut 23:1*)

## APPLICATION

Some Christians don't believe that "doctrine" (biblical truth & teaching) is important. Many are content just to have their sins forgiven and know that they are going to heaven. As wonderful as God's gifts of justification and a heavenly future are, there is more to what Christ accomplished at the cross. God's purpose for us is that we will be Christ-like (Rom 8:29). Jesus also made this possible by His death on the cross.

Indifference to sound, biblical teaching is a perilous attitude. In order for us to grow spiritually, we must feed on the Word of God (2 Tim 3:16-17). If we neglect doctrine, we will remain spiritual "babes" and have little or no testimony for Christ in this world (1 Cor 3:1-3). If we are spiritually immature, we are vulnerable to false teaching that will hinder our spiritual growth and testimony (Eph 4:14-15). We must be diligent in our study of the scriptures, so that our faith is grounded firmly in sound doctrine (2 Tim 2:15). This not only provides the basis for spiritual growth ("running well"; Gal 5:7) – it also equips us to recognize false teaching when it arises. Those who are not sound in doctrine are to be taught and corrected (2 Tim 2:24-26; Titus 1:9). Those who refuse the truth and insist on misleading others have no place in the fellowship of believers (1 Tim 6:3-5).

*"...in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility..." (Titus 2:7)*