

Cut In on by False Teachers

Galatians 5:7- 12

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An Athletic Metaphor of a Race

Galatians 5:7 (NIV)
You were running a good race. **Who cut in on you** and kept you from obeying the truth?

- > The truth of the gospel had already been preached by Paul and believed, the false teachers came later
- > The **cut**+idea ties several points together: **cut in on, circumcised and emasculated.**
- > **The truth**+is the gospel and it calls for obedience (Romans 1:5)

2

Works Righteousness is not from God

Galatians 5:8 (NIV)
That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

- > **That kind**+(NASB = **this**) is literally **the persuasion**
- > They had come to faith because of the internal (effectual) call of God
- > **Contrived persuasiveness**+is another way to translate this.

3

False Teaching infects the Whole Person and the Whole Congregation

Galatians 5:9 (NIV)

A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.

- > This is an aphorism or wise saying
- > Tolerating false teaching is NOT a Christian virtue

4

Paul does not Give Up on Them Because He Trusts in the Lord

Galatians 5:10 (NIV)

I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion will pay the penalty, whoever he may be.

- > The situation is very bad but Paul had seen them converted by grace through the gospel
- > God completes His work of salvation for His own and judgment on those who attack them
- > This is eschatological judgment

5

The Cross Loses its Offense When Law-works are Added

Galatians 5:11 (NIV)

Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished.

- > The preaching of the cross is antithetical to requiring circumcision and other law-works
- > A crossless Christianity might be popular, but has no power to save

6



Paul's Imprecation

Galatians 5:12 (NIV)
As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!

- > Their doctrine was nothing more than paganism
- > Paul's opinion of them was strident and harsh
- > Peter uttered an imprecation (Acts 8:20)

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Implications and Applications

- > Leaven comes in the form of works-righteousness in one form or another
- > We must avoid a crossless Christianity
- > We must guard the flock from false teachers

8

The Leaven of Works Righteousness

Romans 11:6 (HCSB)
Now if by grace, then it is not by works; otherwise **grace ceases to be grace.**

Romans 4:4, 5 (NASB)
Now to **the one who works**, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the **one who does not work, but believes** in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

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Any Crossless Christianity Is Invalid

1Corinthians 1:23, 24 (NASB)

but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

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Guard the Flock

Acts 20:28 (NASB)

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.+

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