

Vv1-5: Five Questions

- 1. Who? Attention-Getting Question
- 2. How? Main Question
- 3. To What Extent? Follow-on Question
- 4. Are You Sure? Validation Question
- 5. How? Summary Question

Gal 3:1: WHO?

"O, Foolish=non-thinking God's thoughts Galatians! Who has hypnotized (so as to steal your attention away from its former focus) you?

You before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as having been crucified in the past with results that still continue right now?

Critical Doctrines of V1

- "O, Foolish=non-thinking God's thoughts Galatians! Who has hypnotized (so as to steal your attention away from its former focus) you?
- 1. Thought is Paramount in the Christian life
- 2. Separation
 - a. From false doctrine
 - b. From temptation to sin
- 3. Occupation with Christ

Critical Doctrines of v1 ctd

You before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as having been crucified in the past with results that still continue right now?

- 1. Positional Truth—both past and present
- 2. Personal Sense of Eternal Destiny
- 3. Sufficiency of Scripture
- 4. Authority of Scripture
- 5. The Need for Scriptural Saturation

Gal 3:2: HOW?



This ONLY I want to learn from you:

By means of the works of the Law

the Spirit did you receive

or by means of the hearing of faith?!

PLEASE MARK THE CORRECT ANSWER CLEARLY BELOW



The Contrast of v2

- 1. When you read Paul's letters the second choice is usually, if not always correct!
- 2. Obeying the Law is contrasted with hearing a message and believing it.
- 3. Therefore we find faith and work mutually exclusive.
- 4. There is no higher system man could obey than the Mosaic Law because it was given to man by God.
- 5. The Law is not the problem; the problem is man's unrighteousness.
- 6. The Mosaic Law actually demonstrates man's unrighteousness and so points to our need for a message to believe.

Major Statement of Dogmatic Theology:

The human being in the Church Age receives the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit by means of believing a message he hears.

- So he does not believe AFTER he receives the Spirit. V2 is bad news for Calvinism.
- BELIEVE THEN RECEIVE, NOT RECEIVE THEN BELIEVE

Gal 3:3: TO WHAT EXTENT?!

THIS foolish are you?!

Having begun (aor deponent participle)

by means of the Spirit,

are you NOW

by means of the flesh

being perfected?!

Grace Again

- 1. Just as Paul's life has been a portrait of Grace and God's self-revelation through him, so Paul reminds us that the spiritual life of a believer is all about God's Grace.
- 2. "Having begun by the Spirit" points directly to the beginning of the New Life in Christ.
- 3. This beginning is the Grace regeneration of God the Holy Spirit
- 4. The overwhelming argument is this: What starts us going is what keeps us going, cf. Phil 1:6