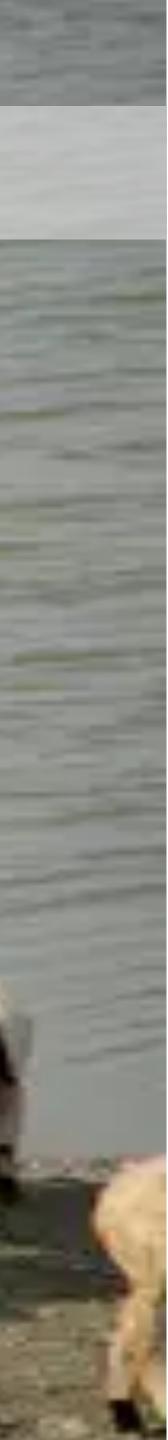
Guarding the Gospel of Grace Preserving Liberty in Christ



John 10:3-5



The Book of Galatians 1-2 The Gospel of Grace Defended 3-4 The Gospel of Grace Explained 5-6 The Gospel of Grace Applied







Galatians 4:8-11 A. Turning Back to False Gods 8-9a B. Turning Back to False Religion 9b-11



Galatians 4:8-11

A. Turning Back to False Gods: ⁸ Howbeit then, when ye knew not (God) ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods⁹ But now, after that ye have known (God) or rather are known of God

B. Turning Back to False Religion: ... how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? ¹⁰ Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. ¹¹ I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.



A. Turning Back to False Gods • The Old Life: serving false gods • Didn't know God Served what were really not gods at all The New Life: serving the True God You have gotten to know God Actually: God has gotten to know you

"We confess that we are atheists, as far as gods of this sort are concerned, but not with respect to the most true God, the Father of righteousness."

- Justin Martyr

Galatians 4:8-11 A. Turning Back to False Gods 8-9a B. Turning Back to False Religion 9b-11



Galatians 4:8-11

A. Turning Back to False Gods: ⁸ Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. ⁹ But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, ...

B. Turning Back to False Religion: vain.

... how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? ¹⁰Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years) ¹¹ I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in



"Turning Back"

Used of Spiritual Conversion 1 Thes 1:9; Acts 9:35; 15:19 Used of Spiritual Apostasy 2 Pet 2:21–22

B. Turning Back to False Religion Weak and beggarly elements

Dropping out of the School of Grace and re-enrolling in the Kindergarten of Law







B. Turning Back to False Religion Weak and beggarly elements • Turn again to bondage

Religious Bondage

Tony Jones advocate spiritual tools of "The Jesus Prayer, Lectic Stations of the Cross, Co Examen, an

- Tony Jones advocates sixteen "ancient-future"
 - spiritual tools or disciplines such as
- "The Jesus Prayer, Lectio Divina, Silence and Solitude,
 - Stations of the Cross, Centering Prayer, The Ignatian
 - Examen, and the Labyrinth".

Religious Bondage

"Following some experience with the ancient practices outlined in this book, you may decide to incorporate some of them into your personal Rule of Life. An example of a rule could look something like this: Pray through two centuries of the Jesus Prayer in the morning and evening every day. Keep the Sabbath from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday every week. Walk a labyrinth once a month. Take a two-day silent retreat once a year. Fast and walk the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent. Take a 28-day Ignatian retreat every decade...."

Reigious Bondage

- "I grew up thinking that we figured out the Bible that we knew what it means.

 - Now I have no idea what most of it means,
 - and yet I feel like life is big again!
- Like life used to be black and white, and now it's in color."



Kristen Bell

"People today are starved, not for doctrines, but for images and relationships and stories."



Leonard Sweet

B. Turning Back to False Religion Weak and beggarly elements Turn again to bondage Observe days and months and times and years

The Weak and Beggarly Elements

- Days: weekly Sabbath and other one-day Feasts
- Months: New Moon rituals
- Times: Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles
- Years: Jubilee, New Year, Sabbatical Years

B. Turning Back to False Religion Paul is concerned for them They are leaving the gospel of grace • Paul is concerned about labor in vain • They are wasting the gospel of grace

How does all of this work out? • Be faithful to the simple gospel Jesus died to pay your penalty Jesus died to justify you • Jesus rose to give you life Jesus rose to empower you

