

Gospel Singularity Galatians 1:6-10

True faith has nothing whatever of merit about it... It brings with it nothing to Christ but a sinful man's soul. It gives nothing, pays nothing, contributes nothing, performs nothing. It only receives, takes, accepts, grasps, embraces the glorious gift of justification which Christ bestows.

-J.C. Ryle

I. Why does it matter?

II. Where does it come from?

III. What's the goal?

Into the Bible

For those raised in the culture of obedience to the Law, accepting salvation as a free gift of God must have run counter to so much of what shaped their daily lives. The desire to maintain that probably prompted many of those that Paul is writing to about the freedom we have in Christ. Contrast Proverbs 14:12 with Ephesians 2:8-9.

Application

With the emphasis on our freedom in Christ it seems odd that Paul frequently describes himself as the bond-servant of Christ. (Romans 1:1) Yet our freedom does come with a cost as 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 reminds us. In what sense does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:24 apply here?

As verse 6 points out, the good news of the Gospel is Christ himself. To shift the focus of our faith to anything but our relationship with him is to “leave our first love” (Revelation 2:4). What does 2 Peter 2:20-21 warn those who choose to walk away from the Gospel? And yet what does 2 Timothy remind us about God’s character?

For Families

Talk with your children about why we should obey God’s commands on our lives.