

# BOOK OF GALATIANS

## *“Neither”*

Scripture Reading: GALATIANS 3:23-29

- ) **SLIDES 1-6**. Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDES 7-8**. Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) **SLIDE 9**. Today we continue in our expository study of the Book of GALATIANS. This is message #26. I have titled today’s message *“Neither”* (3x in v28).
- ) **SLIDE 10**. Last week we talked briefly about proper Bible interpretation. There is a scientific method, an organized process if you will, by which that is accomplished. That process is called hermeneutics. Following proper hermeneutics, we arrive at proper Bible interpretation.
- ) I said last week that today’s text contains two issues that are controversial and debated in today’s church. These issues become controversial because people, over the years, have failed to do a proper interpretation of the Word of God.
- ) **SLIDE 11**. Some pastors and churches and denominations have successfully performed an eisegesis of the Scriptures. They do this for two main reasons: 1) They want the Bible to say what they want it to say, and 2) they cave into a culture which pressures them into changing that interpretation.
- ) The first controversial issue, which we discussed last week, is the idea that water baptism is a necessary condition for salvation. This issue has been debated for centuries.
- ) Here’s the question that we asked: Must one be water baptized to inherit eternal life? And after searching the Scriptures and performing a good exegesis of the text, we determined that water baptism is NOT necessary for salvation.

- ) We equated that conclusion with what we have learned so far in GALATIANS that if the Judaizers were proliferating the false teaching that circumcision (which is a work) was necessary for salvation, then water baptism (which is also a work) being necessary for salvation either, must be false teaching also.
- ) Saying we must contribute a work (in this case water baptism) to obtain our salvation is to diminish Christ's work on the cross. Jesus said it was finished and it was, and it is.
- ) **SLIDE 12.** But I said there were two controversial issues in today's text. So, what is our second controversial issue? It is v28. How can this verse be controversial or misinterpreted?
- ) The human race and the human condition have always had the sin of bigotry. People do not like other people because, in some way, they are different than they are. Titanic quote. Rose: "*Half the people on this boat are going to drown.*" Cal: "*Not the better half.*" Explain.
- ) The people of 2000 years ago were no different. Generally speaking, the male Jew looked down upon Gentiles, slaves, and women.
- ) But what is Paul telling the Christian in this verse? We can no longer do this. We are all one in Christ. Regardless, if we are Jew or Gentile, if we are free or slave, if we are male or female, we are all on equal ground when it comes to what? What's the context of our passage? Salvation. When it comes to salvation, we are all on equal ground.
- ) We must remember that in those days the Jew thought that only they could be saved. And to some degree that would be correct. Salvation is from the Jews. Their God was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and the only true path of salvation. The Jews were the chosen people of the God of Abraham.
- ) However, some of those Jews narrowed that even further to say just a free male Jew could be saved.

- ) But now with the coming of the Messiah and the NC, salvation has come to all. For God so loved the world. Yes, God loves the Jew, and also the Gentile. God loves the free, but also the slave. God loves the male, but also the female. And this is new teaching to the people of that time. Up to this time, they were very bigoted against Gentiles, slaves, and women.
- ) The context of this passage clearly teaches that there can be no differentiation in ethnicity (neither Jew/Gentile), in status (neither free/slave), or in gender (neither male/female) when it comes to who can inherit eternal life. Context.
- ) **SLIDE 13**. ROMANS 2:9-11. Not only does God show no partiality in salvation, but He also shows no partiality in His love, and no partiality in His wrath.
- ) **SLIDE 14**. Do we all understand this? This is extremely important. This verse simply means that anyone can be saved. It is the clear context of this passage.
- ) Well, if this passage is that clear, then why and how is it so controversial in today's church?
- ) Even though anyone can be saved (Jew/Gentile, free/slave, male/female) God has also put into place through His Word roles in the church and in the home concerning men and women. His Word clearly defines those differences. But today's world (church) calls those differences unacceptable.
- ) I've spoken about this issue numerous times here in this church and I'll touch on it briefly again today. There are those within the church who reject the truth that there are roles, designed by God, for men and women in the church and in the home. And they use GAL 3:28 to prove that is so.
- ) A person like myself, who is quickly becoming a minority voice for this truth in the church, will say that a woman should not be pastoring churches usurping authority over men and men need to step up and be the spiritual leaders in the church and home.

- ) But here's the response someone like me will get: "*Well, that's not what GALATIANS 3:28 says. God's Word says that there is neither male nor female. So, get over it, you misogynists, and admit that women can perform the role of pastor and preacher and leader of the home just as well as any man can.*"
- ) It's not a matter of ability. It's a matter of obedience.
- ) Remember our word from last week? Eisegesis? Where we make the Scriptures say what we want them to say? This is a perfect example of how people have performed an eisegesis on GAL 3:28.
- ) **SLIDE 15**. So, what do the Scriptures teach us about the roles of males and females? Sermon series. Explain.
- ) **SLIDE 16**. Male and female roles. Again, we have been designed differently and God is that designer. When we disagree with these truths, then we disagree with God Himself who designed us differently on purpose and for a purpose.
- ) **SLIDE 17**. GENESIS 1:27 tells us that God created them male and female. The male is the leader, and the female is the helper. They need each other because they need what the other brings into the relationship. And when they work together, they complete each other in the church and in the home. And only then do you have a God-honoring relationship.
- ) For about 1900 years this issue was not an issue. But the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century church has capitulated to a society which has blurred any and all distinctions between male and female. Why? Because the church would rather be friends with the world than stand on the Word of God.
- ) You know we are now living in androgenous LGBTQ society. There are no longer any gender differences. FB lists 56 genders. And this anti-biblical agenda is dictating that their brand of love would put a smile on the face of Jesus and the church is hypocritical if they don't buy into it.

- ) Men trans into women and women trans into men and they say the church better say that its OK. Men marry men and women marry women and they say the church better say that its OK.
- ) And let's allow our children to be non-binary (a new term in my vocabulary) until they are old enough to figure out what gender they want to be.
- ) This is not only sinful, but also perverted and sick. To me, the answer is rather simple. Do they have blue booties or pink booties? Which way does the plumbing go?
- ) BGCC, it's just another way for people to hate God. How could He have possibly made me this way? How could there possibly be different roles for men and women?
- ) **SLIDE 18**. But what has happened? ROMANS 1:28-32.
- ) **SLIDE 19**. I understand a God-hating world, but why is it that the church can't figure out this thing with genders? The curse.
- ) And it's sad that the church has bought into this. Have you ever wondered why this world is going to hell in a handbasket? God abandoned Israel for their evil ways and disobedience, and He will abandon the church and our country for our evil ways and disobedience too.
- ) Any church that stands on the Word of God better be ready for some heavy persecution. It won't be long until the government dictates what a preacher can and cannot say.
- ) **SLIDE 20**. The roles of men and women in the church and in the home have nothing to do with what GALATIANS 3:28 teaches. And that is our second controversy from today's text. We are all one in salvation which is the context of this passage. But God has designed us different in our gender roles. Let's embrace those differences and glorify God with those differences.

) **SLIDE 21.** And by that common salvation we are one in Christ because there is neither Jew nor Gentile, there is neither free nor slave, and there is neither male nor female. And that makes all of us Abraham's descendants, and we are all heirs to the promise of eternal life.

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