

# BOOK OF GALATIANS

## *“God Is Not Mocked”*

Scripture Reading: GALATIANS 6:6-8

- ) **SLIDES 1-6.** Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDES 7.** Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) **SLIDE 8.** Today we continue in our expository study of the Book of GALATIANS. This is message #44. I have titled today’s message *“God Is Not Mocked”* (6:7).
- ) Let’s begin this morning by reviewing the major concern of the apostle Paul for writing this letter to the people in the churches at Galatia. False teachers, whom Paul refers to as Judaizers, had infiltrated these churches and were teaching the people that if they were not circumcised, they could not be saved.
- ) I believe that is what Paul had in mind as he wrote verses 6-8. Keep that in mind (false teachers) as we move forward today.
- ) **SLIDE 9.** GAL 6:6. I listened to several messages and read numerous commentaries on 6:6 this past week, all by trusted preachers, and they all seem to point in the same direction. They all taught that 6:6 is referring to the Biblical principle that the *“good things”* that should be shared by those who are taught the Word of God is financial compensation.
- ) Personally, I don’t like to talk about this because this church pays me a salary and I am quite satisfied with what you pay me financially. But it is a Biblical principle. So, let’s look at this principle. And then we’ll talk about how it was misused in the churches at Galatia then and misused in churches today.
- ) When I go down to my local Food Lion grocery store, I load my cart with groceries and walk out the door. Right? No. I stop at the checkout counter and pay for what I need.

- ) Every week I go to my chiropractor and get my neck adjusted. He provides a service. I financially compensate him for that service. I need the service he provides.
- ) I think we all understand this principle of providing a service and receiving compensation for that service.
- ) **SLIDE 10.** 1 COR 9:11-14. The Bible teaches it is no different for the man who brings the Word of God to the people of God. Explain.
- ) **SLIDE 11.** 1 TIMOTHY 5:17-18. Another verse.
- ) From these verses we can see that it is a Biblical principle to financially compensate the men who bring the Word of God to the people of God.
- ) But can this be abused? Well, every command from God can be abused in some way. This command can be abused from the standpoint of the person bringing the Word of God and abused by those who are benefitting from hearing the Word of God. Let's talk about the Galatian church first.
- ) It is believed that the false teachers who were infiltrating the churches at Galatia were also demanding payment for their services. It's very similar to the Catholic procedure from the 16<sup>th</sup> century of indulgences. The Catholic priest would sell an indulgence to the unsuspecting people. And in return the priest would promise them eternal life. In other words, you could buy your stairway to heaven.
- ) What about today? Let me say this. There is nothing wrong with a pastor properly investing and managing their finances wisely. But, can a pastor abuse the Biblical principle of earning a living from teaching the gospel today?
- ) I'm going to give you a list of the eight richest pastors in America in 2021. I found conflicting numbers from different websites. So, I chose the numbers from *www.beliefnet.com*. I'll let you decide if they are gaining their wealth honestly or not.

- ) **SLIDE 12.** Kenneth Copeland. The ministry owns a \$17.5m jet and the Copelands live in a \$6m church-owned lakefront mansion.
- ) **SLIDE 13.** T.D. Jakes. A Pentecostal preacher out of Dallas, TX who is a modalist and claims speaking in tongues is necessary for salvation. Good friends with Oprah Winfrey.
- ) **SLIDE 14.** Pat Robertson. 700 Club host.
- ) **SLIDE 15.** Bennie Hinn. Yes, you can buy a miracle if you just send Benni your cash.
- ) **SLIDE 16.** Joel Osteen. He brings in 43,000 people a week into his Lakewood, TX church and lives in a \$10.5m home.
- ) **SLIDE 17.** Creflo Dollar. The name says it all. His ministry brings in \$69m/year and owns 3- multimillion dollar homes.
- ) **SLIDE 18.** Rick Warren. He is the author of the Purpose-Driven Life/Church books. He drives a 12-year-old Ford.
- ) **SLIDE 19.** Joyce Meyer. She owns a \$10 million jet, several homes that cost up to \$2 million each. The ministry's \$20 million headquarters is outfitted with \$5.7 million worth of furniture (a \$23,000 antique marble-topped commode).
- ) The interesting thing about this list is that most of these preachers to some degree are false teachers. It's not that everything these people preach is false. There is some good. But their teaching can go anywhere from Kenneth Copeland saying he is "*I am*" to Creflo Dollar and Joyce Meyer claiming they are "*little gods*" to the disastrous word faith preaching of TD Jakes and Bennie Hinn to Joel Osteen who teams up with Oprah Winfrey and teaches that all paths lead to God.
- ) I'll say it again. I'll let you decide if they are gaining their wealth honestly or not.
- ) So, how do these people, and others like them, and these \$\$\$ figures line up with our three Scripture verses today?

- ) **SLIDE 20.** GAL 6:6-8. There is another Biblical principle found in these verses. And that is the principle of sowing and reaping. You reap what you sow. Amen?
- ) **SLIDE 21.** 2COR 9:6. The context of this passage is what we sow financially to the church. The next verse (v7) tells us that God loves a cheerful giver. And this is what I teach here at BGCC. I do not teach tithing. Tithing is OT. Be a cheerful giver. That's the NT principle. Give what you like. Just remember there is a Biblical principle here about sowing and reaping.
- ) **SLIDE 22.** But the principle remains the same. We will **REAP** based on what we **SOW**. And this does not apply just to our finances, but in every aspect of our lives.
- ) The question now becomes this: What were the teachers back in Galatia and the teachers of today sowing, and what is their motive for doing so?
- ) **SLIDE 23.** GAL 6:8. Read.
- ) **SLIDE 24.** According to this text, a teacher within the church is either teaching to satisfy their own **NEEDS**, or they are teaching to honor the **SPIRIT** of God.
- ) **SLIDE 25.** GAL 6:8. And if we apply the Biblical principle of sowing and reaping, we know that those who sow to honor the Spirit of God will reap eternal life. This is the calling of a pastor. To preach the Word of God (sound doctrine) in and out of season. There are rewards for the pastor doing this God's way.
- ) **SLIDE 26.** GAL 6:8. On the other hand, those who sow for their own needs (to the flesh) will reap corruption. This isn't good. These people are wolves in sheep's clothing.
- ) **SLIDE 27.** GAL 6:7. And verse 7 tells us that God will not be mocked in how a person teaches within the church. What does it mean to mock someone?

- ) **SLIDE 28.** Definition of “*mock.*” Read.
- ) Let me sum this up for you. Any false teacher over the past 2000 years who has not or does not teach the Word of God with respect and truth, those who twist and distort the Scriptures to their own end, will answer to God in a mighty way.
- ) **SLIDE 29.** JAMES 3:1. If you want to be a teacher of the Word of God, you better get it right without mocking God.
- ) **SLIDE 30.** Do you think for one minute that God won't come down hard on Kenneth Copeland for Kenneth Copeland saying, “*When I read in the Bible where God says ‘I am’ I just smile and say ‘I am too.’*” That, my friends, is blasphemy!
- ) DO NOT BE DECEIVED! I spoke with a lady several years back who was a big Kenneth Copeland supporter. She didn't have much but she sent her money to Copeland. Folks, this man is sowing false doctrine and he only wants your money and people like her send their millions of dollars to this charlatan every year.
- ) They are all deceived. They are all (the teachers and the supporters) mocking God. And Satan loves it. After all, Satan acts as an angel of light, doesn't he?
- ) **SLIDE 31.** HEBREWS 10:31. God is not mocked. Just turn on TBN, INSP, DAYSTAR, or one of those other heretical stations, and watch these heretics mocking God with every word that gushes out of their blasphemous mouths.
- ) The false teachers in Galatia were sowing to their own flesh. That will reap corruption. False teachers today are sowing to their own flesh. That will reap corruption. And if those who are taught the Word sow to their own flesh (because they want to buy a miracle or they want Jesus to take care of all their carnal desires), they will also reap corruption.

) BUT, If you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life. Those who teach the Word of God better get it right. God is not mocked.

9/19/2021 at Beech Grove Christian Church