

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopses of Sermons Preached by Rev. Chris Johns

THE EPISTLES OF JOHN – CHRISTIANITY IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

October 2, 2011

14. Disciples' Grief will Turn to Joy

John 16:16-33

INTRODUCTION – Life rejections & Tribulations

1. Job interview, Career, School
2. Disciples rejection – Synagogue, Church
 - A. Isolation from social life, employment
 - B. Isolation from family or spouse
3. Vs. 9 root is rejection of Christ
4. Vs. 11 Satan already defeated
5. Comforter will come
6. A little while, Sorrow turned to joy

I. Christ was giving his Pre Calvary Orientation

Christ was giving them words to keep them going
When you going to quit – Greater is he that is in...
Throwing a pity party- weeping endures for a night
You are going to lose your mind – He is able to keep you in perfect peace whose
mind is stayed on thee.
You were going to discard all hope – The Lord is my light & salvation...

He wanted them to know that in him there is peace
In him there is rest, quietness
Romans 5:1 – I have peace with God the father

Prov 16:7 – When my ways please the lord I can have peace with my enemies.

The world is out of control, wars and rumors of wars, but you have peace

II. Vs. 33, Jesus does not say you do your best

1. He did not say go home & cry in tribulation
 2. He did not say give up
 - A. He says be of good Cheer. He says cheer up! You don't have to be sad. He says cheer up!
 1. Cheer up because of his pardon
 2. Cheer up because of his power
 3. Cheer up because of his presence
- Pardon our sins, math 9:1-8

Wonder working power, Math 14:22-27
Presence – Never leave you nor forsake you

B. Cheer up everyday

1. Why – He has overcome the world
2. Psalm 34:17-19, The righteous cry, and Lord delivereth them out of all their troubles. Lord is near the broken heart and he saveth the contrite spirit, Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord deliverth him out of them all.
3. No weapon formed against me shall prosper
4. When Jesus overcame the world
The sinner could be saved
Accused could be acquitted
Burdened could be blessed
Corrupt could be converted
Despairing cry could be answered
Tormented could be triumphant
Ruined could become redeemed
Vulgar could become virtuous
Guilty can become godly
Hopeless can be helped
Hurt can be healed
Wicked could become worthy
5. By Jesus overcoming the world at the cross
We can lean on him
Dependable in spite of our difficulties
Helpful in spite of our handicapps
We are conquers in spite of our weaknesses
Troubled-distressed, perplexed-despair
Persecuted-not forsaken, Cast down-not destroyed forever thinking about Christ that has manifested in us knowing that we have overcome this world.

We are just passing through this land. This is not our final destination. The race is not given to the strongest nor the fastest, but to those who endure to the end. Let Christ be our anchor in this race, because he has overcome this world.

- **And if you are reading this on the Internet why don't you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org?**

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

October 9, 2011

1. No Other Gospel

Galatians 1:1-10

- 1. Christianity is the practice of genuine relationships built on sound doctrine based on the true gospel. The Book of Galatians aids us to understand that Christianity is founded on the true gospel.**
- 2. This book is called Pros Galatas, "To the Galatians". The name Galatians was given to this Celtic people because they originally lived in Gaul before moving from central Europe to Asia Minor in the third century B.C. and settled in the area known today as the Capitol of Turkey. The term Galatia was used in an ethnographic (cultural/geographic) sense as well as in a political sense. In 189 B.C. Galatia came under Roman domination and was declared a Roman Province in 25 B.C. by Augustus of Rome. Paul wrote this epistle from Antioch, about 49 A.D. prior to the Jerusalem Council in 50 A.D.**
- 3. This book of Galatians is the truth of the gospel and Christian freedom. Paul states the reality of our liberty in Christ. Christians are freed from the power of sin. This is one of the messages that come out very clearly from this book; that no sinful person has been granted eternal life based on good works. Anyone who lives by a confidence in good works alone for their salvation is cursed. This is because no one can perfectly obey the law (Galatians 3:10-12). Therefore, this book refutes the Judaizers and calls Believers back to the true and pure gospel that affirms that salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing else. Another message that comes out very clear in this book of Galatians is one of caution. There is the ever-present danger of not relying on the power of the Holy Spirit and subsequently, the Believer starts depend on the flesh and displaying the corrupt works of the flesh. In truth, good works can only be accomplished in the power of the Holy Spirit. So in this first message of this series using the Book of Galatians, Paul ensures to emphasize where his authority came from to say there is no other gospels but the gospel of Christ whereby we can obtain salvation.**
- 4. Thus today's text reads, "Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— 2 and all the brothers and sisters with me, To the churches in Galatia: 3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If**

anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse! 10 Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ" (Galatians 1:1-10).

5. Mt Traveler members, as we conclude this sermon please allow me to summarize today's sermon as follows:
 - Paul informs us that he was not called to be an apostle sent from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead.
 - In his epistle to the churches in Galatia Paul wished them Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever.
 - Paul was astonished that they were so quickly deserting the one who called them to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people (the Judaizers) were throwing them into confusion and were trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.
 - Paul then warned that even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!
 - Paul then concluded that if anyone was still trying to please people, they would not and cannot be a servant of Christ. And let the church say, "Amen!"
6. So if you desire to know God and enjoy spiritual fellowship and eternal life with Him, Jesus Christ and His Church we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life. Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved. May God bless you as you humbly come to Him while the Choir leads us in a song?
7. And if you are reading this on the Internet why don't you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org?

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

October 16, 2011 2. Paul, An Apostle Called by God Galatians 1:11-24

- 1. Christianity is the practice of genuine relationships built on sound doctrine based on the true gospel. The Book of Galatians aids us to understand that Christianity is founded on the true gospel. The true gospel enables us to know who called you into Christianity and who called you into your ministry. Paul clarifies to us in this book to the Galatians that he is an Apostle called by God.**
- 2. This book of Galatians is written with a focus on the truth of the gospel and Christian freedom. Therein, Paul states the reality of our liberty in Christ. Christians are freed from the power of sin. This is one of the messages that come out very clearly from this book; that no sinful person has been granted eternal life based on good works. Anyone who lives by a confidence in good works alone for their salvation is cursed. This is because no one can perfectly obey the law (Galatians 3:10-12). Therefore, this book refutes the Judaizers and calls Believers back to the true and pure gospel that affirms that salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing else. Another message that comes out very clear in this Book of Galatians is one of caution: Every Believer must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit; otherwise you might start depending on the flesh and displaying the corrupt works of the flesh. In truth, good works can only be accomplished in the power of the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. In today's message Paul shares his testimony concerning his calling by God from Judaism into the ministry to be an Apostle to the Gentiles. He also argues that the gospel he preached was the true gospel because it did not originate from humans. Thus today's text reads, "I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. 13 For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. 14 I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. 15 But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased 16 to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. 17 I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus. 18 Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. 19 I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother. 20 I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie. 21 Then I went to Syria and Cilicia. 22 I was personally unknown to the**

churches of Judea that are in Christ. 23 They only heard the report: “The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.” 24 And they praised God because of me” (Galatians 1:11-24).

4. Mt Traveler members, as we conclude this sermon please allow me to summarize today’s sermon as follows:
 - Paul wants us to understand that no calling to preach or minister the true gospel is from man.
 - It is God who calls you into your ministry of the true gospel while you are still in your mother’s womb. Your calling is also specific and to a particular cultural setting (Paul was called to minister to the Gentiles); so do not resist your calling.
 - Your immediate response should not to consult any human being about your calling. You must clarify your calling from God through the Holy Spirit and by prayer and fasting.
 - Once you confirm your calling from the Holy Spirit, allow Him to be your teacher first before seeking other “experienced ministers” to counsel you. And if you must consult those that were in the ministry before you, limit the number (in other words find you a mentor and resist hopping from one mentor to another)
 - Then let the testimony of your transformation confirm your calling into whatsoever ministry God has called you. And people will praise God because of your testimony and your transformed life. And let the church say, “Amen!”
- 5 So if you desire to know God and enjoy spiritual fellowship and eternal life with Him, Jesus Christ and His Church we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life. Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved. May God bless you as you humbly come to Him while the Choir leads us in a song?
- 6 And if you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org?

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopses of Sermons Preached by Rev. B. C. Datiri, Pastor

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL
October 23, 2011 3. Paul Accepted by the Other Apostles Galatians
2:1-10

1. Christianity is the practice of genuine relationships built on sound doctrine based on the true gospel. The Book of Galatians aids us to understand that

Christianity is founded on the true gospel. The true gospel enables us to know who called you into Christianity and who called you into your ministry. Paul clarifies to us in this book to the Galatians that he is an Apostle called by God but it is also necessary that the one called into ministry be accepted by the esteemed leaders of the Christian faith.

2. This book of Galatians is written to explain the truth of the gospel and Christian freedom that allows us to practice genuine agape relationships. Therein, Paul states the reality of our liberty in Christ – that Christians are freed from the power of sin. This message comes out very clearly from this book indicating that no sinful person gains eternal life based on good works. Anyone who lives by a confidence in good works alone for their salvation is cursed. This is because no one can perfectly obey the law (Galatians 3:10-12). Therefore, this book refutes the Judaizers and calls Believers back to the true and pure gospel that affirms that salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing else. Another message that comes out very clear in this Book of Galatians is one of caution: Every Believer must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit; otherwise you might start depending on the flesh and displaying the corrupt works of the flesh. In truth, good works can only be accomplished in the power of the Holy Spirit.
3. In today's message Paul continues to share his testimony concerning his calling by God from Judaism into the ministry to be an Apostle to the Gentiles. He also argues that the gospel he preached was the true gospel and everyone who has ever been called to minister the true gospel is called to fulfill a particular purpose to specific peoples. However it necessary to check with others who have already accepted their calling to minister so that you will not run the race in vain by distorting the true gospel and Christianity. And the best place to do your checking, and it does not matter how long it takes, is with those esteemed as leaders of the Christian faith. Thus today's text reads, "Then after fourteen years, I went up again to Jerusalem, this time with Barnabas. I took Titus along also. 2 I went in response to a revelation and, meeting privately with those esteemed as leaders; I presented to them the gospel that I preach among the Gentiles. I wanted to be sure I was not running and had not been running my race in vain. 3 Yet not even Titus, who was with me, was compelled to be circumcised, even though he was a Greek. 4 This matter arose because some false believers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves. 5 We did not give in to them for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. 6 As for those who were held in high esteem—whatever they were makes no difference to me; God does not show favoritism—they added nothing to my message. 7 On the contrary, they recognized that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised. 8 For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to

the Gentiles. 9 James, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. 10 All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along” (Galatians 2:1-10).

4. Mt Traveler members, as we conclude this sermon please allow me to summarize today’s sermon as follows:
 - Paul wants us to understand that no calling to preach or minister the true gospel is from man.
 - Everyone called into ministry by the grace of God and the Holy Spirit must respond to the revelation of the Holy Spirit to consult with esteemed leaders of the Christian faith privately to ensure that they are not running in vain with a ministry that is not based on the true gospel.
 - God does not show favoritism as such consulting the esteemed leaders does not undermine or reduce anything from the ministry that have been endowed on you by the grace of God.
 - Everyone’s call into ministry is unique and to minister the true gospel to fulfill a particular purpose to specific peoples.
 - Those that are esteemed leaders must always extend the right hand of fellowship to all who have been called into ministry. Leaders must encourage ministers and remind them to remember the poor. The poor test the genuineness of Christianity which is all about relationships based on agape love without favoritism. And let the church say, “Amen!”
5. So if you desire to know God and enjoy spiritual fellowship and eternal life with Him, Jesus Christ and His Church; and/or fulfill your call to ministry we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life. Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved. May God bless you as you humbly come to Him while the Choir leads us in a song?
6. And if you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org?

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

**October 30, 2011 4. Paul Opposes Cephas(Peter) for Hypocrisy Galatians
2:11-21**

- 1 Christianity is practical genuine agape relationships built on sound doctrine based on the true gospel. The Book of Galatians aids us to understand that Christianity is founded on the true gospel. The true gospel enables us to know who called you into Christianity and your ministry as such there must be no hypocrisy about it. Paul clarifies to us in this Book to the Galatians that hypocrisy cannot be tolerated from anyone called into ministry since Christianity is practical genuine agape relationships according to the true gospel of our faith.**
- 2 This Book of Galatians is written to explain the truth of the gospel and Christian freedom that allows us to practice genuine agape relationships. Therefore, Paul states in this epistle to the Galatians the reality of our liberty in Christ – that Christians are freed from the power of sin. This message comes out so clear that no sinful person can gain eternal life based on good works. Anyone who lives by a confidence in good works alone for their salvation is cursed. This is because no one can perfectly obey the law (Galatians 3:10-12). Therefore, this book refutes the Judaizers and calls Believers back to the true and pure gospel that affirms that salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing else. Another message that comes out very clear in this Book of Galatians is one of caution: Every Believer must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit so as not to start depending on the flesh and displaying the corrupt works of the flesh. In truth, good works can only be accomplished in the power of the Holy Spirit.**
- 3 In today's message Paul continues to shares his testimony concerning his calling by God from Judaism into the ministry to be an Apostle to the Gentiles. He also argues that the gospel he preached was the true gospel and everyone who has ever been called to minister the true gospel is called to fulfill a particular purpose to specific peoples. However, he emphasized in today's lesson that there must be no hypocrisy whatsoever in the practice of the true gospel and Christianity. And the Christian must be apt to directly and boldly oppose any hypocritical attitude observed in other believers, especially those esteemed as leaders of the Christian faith. This is because such hypocritical behavior can mislead other Christians to go astray! Thus today's text reads, "When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. 13 The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. 14 When**

I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs? 15 “We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles 16 know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified. 17 “But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we Jews find ourselves also among the sinners, doesn’t that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! 18 If I rebuild what I destroyed, then I really would be a lawbreaker. 19 “For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing” (Galatians 2:11-21).

- 4 Mt Traveler members, as we conclude this sermon please allow me to summarize today’s sermon as follows:
 - Paul wants us to understand that the calling into Christianity or ministry of the true gospel is not into practicing hypocrisy.
 - Any slight exhibition of hypocritical behavior must be opposed directly and boldly; and condemned instantly.
 - For how can we rebuild the sinful attributes that we have destroyed by dying to it? If we do then we really would be lawbreakers.
 - Does Christ promote sin in us when we received the grace of God by faith unto salvation? Absolutely not! If righteousness could be gained through the law, then Christ died for nothing.
 - We know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.
 - Every Christian should then be able to say “For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me”. And let the church say, “Amen!”
- 5 So if you desire to know God and enjoy spiritual fellowship and eternal life with Him, Jesus Christ and His Church; and/or fulfill your call to ministry we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life. Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on

Calvary, and you will be saved. May God bless you as you humbly come to Him while the Choir leads us in a song?

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