

The Oologah Informer

May 21st, 2017

Let the Bible Speak

By Russ Earl
(Part 1 of 2)

Address

13800 S. 4080 Rd on Hwy
169 South of Oologah
P.O. Box 527 Oologah, OK
74053 (918) 443-2025

www.oologahcofc.org

oologahcofc@oologahcofc.org

facebook.com/oologahchurchofchrist

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.

Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

The Spirit of Christ (**Phil 2:5-8**)

PM Sermon

Gideon

Sunday AM Bible Class:

Characters of the O.T.

Wednesday Bible Class:

“Is Genesis History” Video-part 3

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On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am

The Truth in Love on Channel 47

Sundays @ 8am

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“I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ” (Galatians 1:6-7).

Most Christian groups today say they follow the Bible. Some may even say that they teach the Bible and the Bible only. During Paul’s time as we see in Galatians 1 there were some who thought they were following truth! Paul confronts these individuals and says they have turned to “a different gospel, which is not another.” Paul calls these individuals out for following teachings that were not taught by Christ or the Apostles. Instead, they were following after the teachings or convictions of those who “trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.”

Today, we MUST let the Bible speak! We MUST follow the words of God and His words alone. Let’s look at some of those things that are being taught as if they are part of “the gospel”.

Let’s begin with the most important teaching which happens to be the teaching most perverted by men today - Salvation. First, Christ says in John 3:3, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” John 3:3 and again Christ says “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God” (John 3:5). The fact that one had to be born again in verse 3 is explained in verse 5. There is one birth; there are two elements -“water,” and “the Spirit.” Therefore, both are essential to the new birth; and the new birth is essential to entering the kingdom.

What is meant by being born of water and the Spirit? To enter the kingdom is to be saved “He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:13-14). To be saved one must believe, repent, confess and be baptized for (unto) the remission of sins (Hebrews 11:6, Luke 13:3, Romans 10:10, Acts 2:38). Being born of the Spirit and of water is the same as believing the gospel, repenting of sins, confessing one’s faith in Christ, and being baptized for the remission of sins. To be born “again” is to obey the gospel. One is born in the Spirit by believing the Word which the Spirit gave, and born of water by coming forth from the waters of baptism. The flesh produces fleshly life; the Spirit produces spiritual life (Galatians 3:26-27).

Thus, to be born again is to obey the gospel which, as we see in this verse, includes baptism. It is also important to notice that every conversion in the book of Acts includes baptism. Why would they be baptized if it was not necessary? Baptism was necessary then and is commanded today (Matthew 28:18- 20, Mark 16:16, Acts

19:3-5, Romans 6:4-6). We cannot have our sins washed away (Acts 22:16) or have our sins remitted through His blood (Matthew 26:28; Acts 2:38) unless we are baptized. The Bible clearly teaches such. However, there are many who teach another “gospel” who omit baptism as being necessary. Isn’t that teaching “another gospel”? When we change Christ’s command, we change the gospel. If a congregation is not teaching Christ’s teachings then are they not guilty of teaching “another gospel” or a “different gospel”? The Bible says YES.

Part 2 next week