

Paul on
Sanctification:
Let's Grow Up and
Think II



Priorities in Life

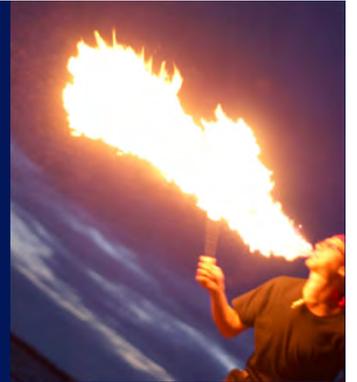


There is nothing more important in your life than your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

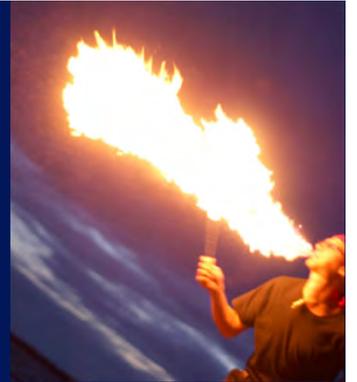
And there is no access or growth in your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ outside of His Word as the Spirit teaches it through the function of the local church.

Vv1-5: Five Questions

1. Who? Attention-Getting Question
2. How? Main Question
3. To What Extent? Follow-on Question
4. Are You Sure? Validation Question
5. How? Summary Question



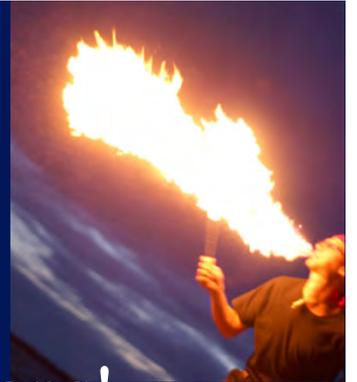
Gal 3:1: WHO?



“O, Foolish=non-thinking God’s thoughts Galatians! **Who** has hypnotized (so as to steal your attention away from its former focus) **you?**

You before **whose** eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as having been crucified in the past with results that still continue right now?

Critical Doctrines of V1



**“O, Foolish=non-thinking God’s thoughts Galatians!
Who has hypnotized (so as to steal your attention
away from its former focus) you?”**

- 1. Thought is Paramount in the Christian life**
- 2. Separation**
 - a. From false doctrine**
 - b. From temptation to sin**
- 3. Occupation with Christ**

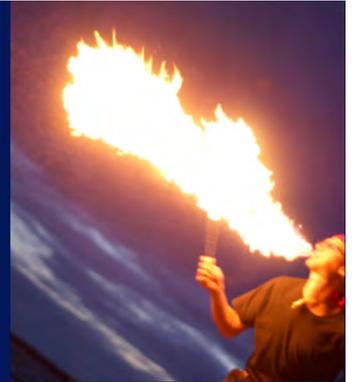
Critical Doctrines of v1 ctd



You before **whose** eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as having been crucified in the past with results that still continue right now?

- 1. Positional Truth—both past and present**
- 2. Personal Sense of Eternal Destiny**
- 3. Sufficiency of Scripture**
- 4. Authority of Scripture**
- 5. The Need for Scriptural Saturation**

Gal 3:2: HOW?



PLEASE MARK THE
CORRECT ANSWER
CLEARLY BELOW

This ONLY I want to learn from you:
By means of the works of the Law
the Spirit did you receive
or by means of the hearing of faith?!

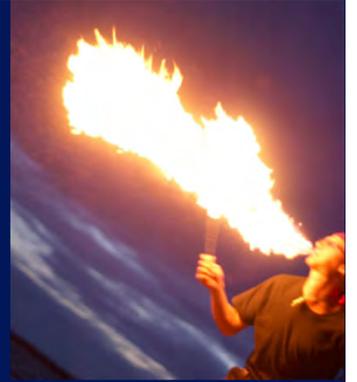


The Contrast of v2



1. When you read Paul's letters the second choice is usually, if not always correct!
2. Obeying the Law is contrasted with hearing a message and believing it.
3. Therefore we find faith and works to be mutually exclusive concepts.
4. There is no higher system man could obey than the Mosaic Law because it was given to man by God.
5. The Law is not the problem; the problem is man's unrighteousness.
6. The Mosaic Law actually demonstrates man's unrighteousness and so points to our need for a message to believe.

Gal 3:2: HOW?



This ONLY I want to learn from you:
By means of the works of the Law
the Spirit did you receive
or by means of the hearing of faith?!

Major Statement of Dogmatic Theology:



The human being in the Church Age receives the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit by means of believing a message he hears.

- So he does not believe AFTER he receives the Spirit. V2 is bad news for Calvinism.
- **BELIEVE THEN RECEIVE, NOT RECEIVE THEN BELIEVE**

Gal 3:3: TO WHAT EXTENT THE IGNORANCE?!

THIS foolish are you?!

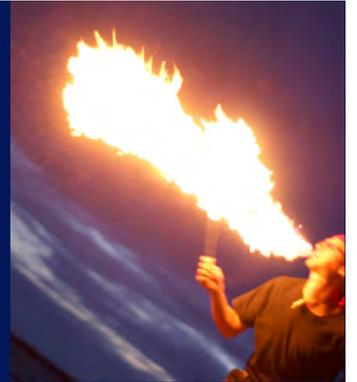
Having begun

in the sphere of the Spirit,

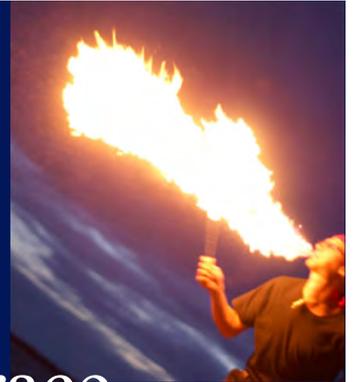
are you NOW

in the sphere of the flesh

being perfected?!

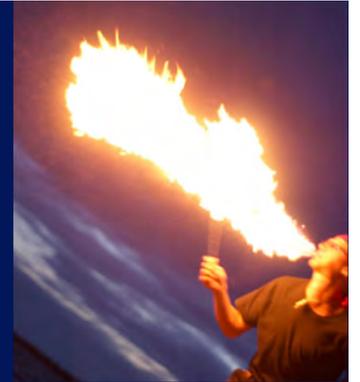


Grace From Faith to Faith



1. Just as Paul's life has been a portrait of Grace and God's self-revelation through him, so Paul reminds us that the spiritual life of a believer is all about God's Grace.
2. "Having begun by the Spirit" points directly to the beginning of the New Life in Christ.
3. This beginning is the Grace regeneration of God the Holy Spirit
4. The overwhelming argument is this: What starts us going is what keeps us going, cf. Phil 1:6

Contextual Review



¹“O, Foolish=non-thinking God’s thoughts Galatians!

Who has hypnotized **you** (so as to steal your attention away from its former focus) ?

You before **whose** eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as having been crucified (with ongoing results)?

²This **ONLY** I want to learn from you:

By means of the works of the Law

the Spirit did you receive

or by means of the hearing of faith?!

³**THIS** foolish are you?!

Having begun

in the sphere of the Spirit,

are you **NOW**

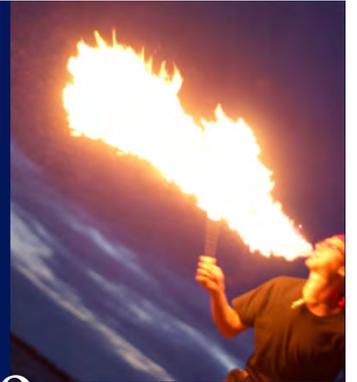
in the sphere of the flesh

being perfected?!

Phase 1

Phase 2

The Law vs. Legalism



1. It is a danger, once we understand grace, to confuse the Mosaic Law with Legalism.
2. The Law has Divine origin; it is absolutely perfect in its quality and adequate to its task.
3. What man in sin does with the good gifts of God is different from the gifts themselves.
4. The Law was God-breathed; it's misuse was not.
5. Legalism can be defined as man declaring and prescribing a standard of relative righteousness whereby he attempts to please God.

6. The Law was perfectly adequate to show man that he was completely hopeless and incapable of being as righteous as God.

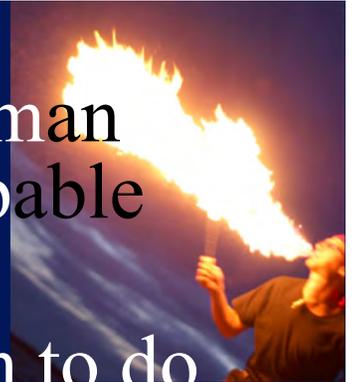
7. The Law was misused by those in Judaism to do just the opposite of its intent.

8. Again the misuse of the Law is not the same as the Law.

9. God knew in eternity past that the Mosaic Law would be perverted by legalistic, fallen human beings.

10. Yet He still gave the children of Israel the Law and set them up as His exemplar nation for the world.

11. Here is the interaction of man's volition and God's sovereignty.



The Filling of the Holy Spirit



1. The standard operating condition of the believer's life after salvation is the filling of the Holy Spirit. Eph 5:18.
2. Therefore the experience of the Holy Spirit's filling will be normal and constant, instead of abnormal and occasional.
3. The interruption of the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit is called grieving, *lupew*: Eph 4:30. This is what one does when there has been a death, 1 Thes 4:13.

4. Notice “grieve” is the Holy Spirit’s experience, and the issue in context of Eph 4:30 is personal sins.

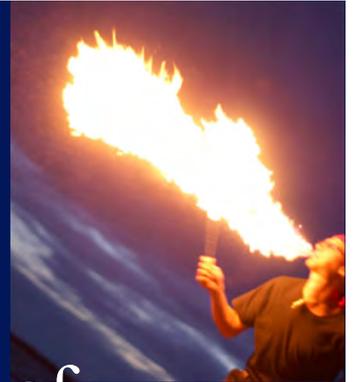


5. The interruption of Filling is also characterized as QUENCHING, sbennumi, 1 Thes 5:19. This imagery suggests a fire that is put out.

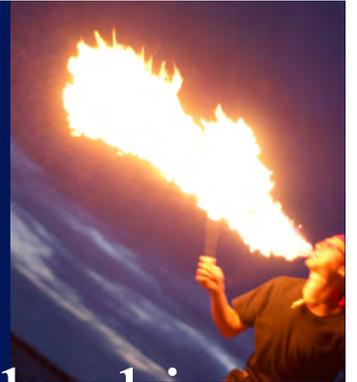
6. Notice that “quench” is the believer’s experience—the ministry is stopped.

7. The context in 1 Thes 5:19 is the result of the filling of the Spirit in v16-18: rejoicing, praying, giving thanks, cf. Eph 5:19-21.

Quenching and Grieving



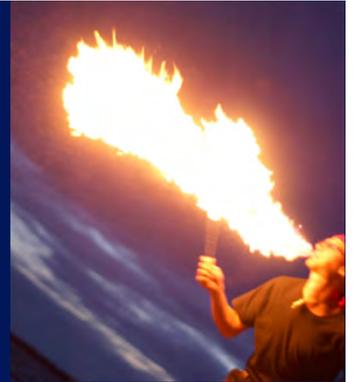
1. **Grieving** is God's attitude about sin in terms of human experience and understanding (anthropopathism).
2. This is the horror of a human being in harmonious rapport with the Lord who breaks rapport by violating God's righteousness.
3. For God the desire for fellowship is constant; breaking fellowship is the believer's sinful choice.
4. **Quenching** views the break in fellowship from the viewpoint of real results in the believer's life: you're flying solo.



5. Either way the believer is functionally dead in his execution of the Christian life.
6. The issue in spirituality, then, is “are you or aren’t you.”

V4: Are You Sure?

So many things did you suffer in vain?
If indeed *the suffering was* in vain?



Acts 14: Suffering in Galatia



1 In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks.

2 But the Jews who disbelieved stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brethren.

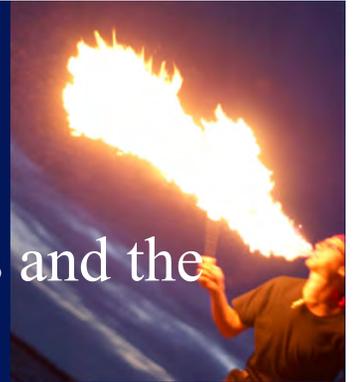
3 Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands.

4 But the people of the city were divided; and some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles.

5 And when an attempt was made by both the Gentiles and the
Jews with their rulers, to mistreat and to stone them,
6 they became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia,
Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region;
7 and there they continued to preach the gospel.

**8 At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his
feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked.**

9 This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he
had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be
made well,



10 said with a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he leaped up and began to walk.

11 When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, “The gods have become like men and have come down to us.”

12 And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.

13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out

15 and saying, “Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.





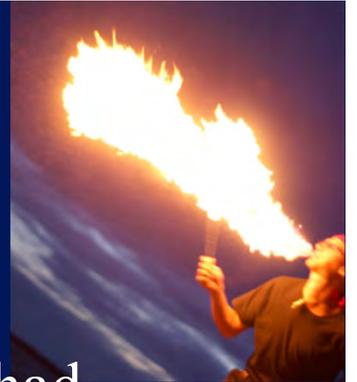
16 “In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways;

17 and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”

18 Even saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

20 But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe.

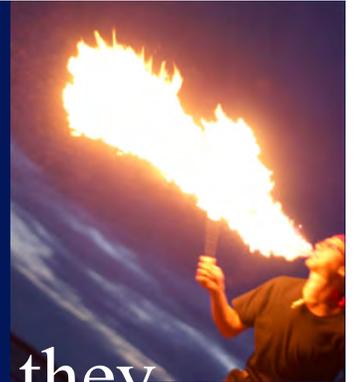


21 After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,

22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and *saying, “Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”*

23 When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

24 They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia.



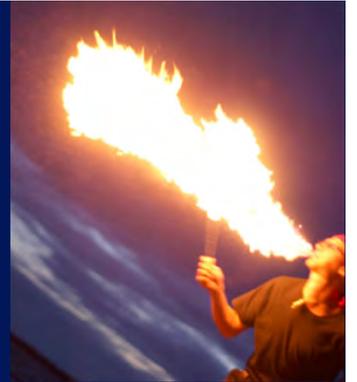
25 When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.

26 From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished.

27 When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they *began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.*

28 And they spent a long time with the disciples.

V5: How?



Therefore, the One who supplies to you the Spirit and works deeds of power in you, *does He do it*

by means of the works of the Law

or

by means of the message heard with faith?