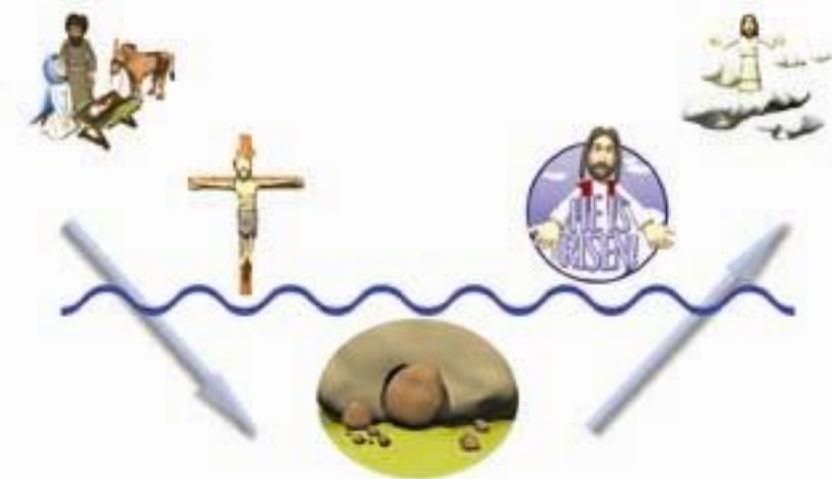


The Truth of the Gospel

Follow these scriptures to Salvation by The True Gospel of Christ

"For I am not ashamed of the *gospel of Christ*, for it is the *power of God to salvation*" -Romans 1:16 "For *by grace you have been saved through faith*, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God" -Ephesians 2:8 "We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to *receive the grace of God in vain.*" -I Corinthians 6:1 "I tell you, no; but *unless you repent you will all likewise perish.*" -Luke 13:3 "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for *if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.*" -John 8:24 "For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth *confession is made unto salvation.*" -Romans 10:10 "There is also an antitype which *now saves us—baptism* (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" -I Peter 3:21 "Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, *baptizing* them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.'" -Matthew 28:18-20

Receiving God's grace on His terms requires following the same pattern (Form) that Jesus gave us. This response is called "Obeying the Gospel". Uniting with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection puts us in a covenant relationship with God through Jesus' blood. Jesus' form (The Gospel) is seen on the top to the right and our form of 'obeying the gospel' is shown below to the right. Weekly remembrance of this covenant blood is done through the *observance of the Lord's Supper*. We are to follow the same form of Jesus' by *repenting, being baptized and rising to walk in a new life*. "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were *buried with Him through baptism into death*, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should *walk in newness of life*. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection." -Romans 6:3-5



"But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that *form of doctrine* to which you were delivered" - Romans 6:17

1. Repent



3. Rise



2. Baptized



The Circumcision - The Mutilation

Many Jews had difficulty accepting Jesus as the Christ. Isaiah predicted that the Jews would stumble at this. Paul wrote, "For they (The Jews) stumbled at that stumbling stone." -Romans 9:32 After many Jews became Christians by obeying the gospel and they still clung to the Law of Moses. It was difficult for them to let go of their traditions and laws. The gospel spread and reached beyond the Jews to the Gentiles (Non-Jewish nationalities). This confused some of the Jews and made others jealous. A group of Jews from Jerusalem decided to tell the Gentiles that they needed to become Jews before they could become Christians. "And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, 'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.'" -Act 15:1 This group became known as the "Circumcision". "But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses. Now the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter." -Acts 15:5-6 Their conclusion was not to burden the Gentiles with this doctrine and to send men from the Apostles with a letter saying, "To the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia: Greetings. Since we have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your souls, saying, "You must be circumcised and keep the law"—to whom we gave no such commandment." - Acts 15:23-24

God inspired the Apostle Paul to write to the churches in Galatia about this 'new' doctrine. Paul said, "I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel", -Galatians 1:6 and, "There are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ." -Galatians 1:7 Paul also said to the Galatians, "I would like to be present with you now and change my tone; for I have doubts about you." -Galatians 4:20 This change in the message of the gospel is not to be taken lightly. Paul told them, "You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace." -Galatians 5:4 He also noted how it affected their obedience to God, "You ran well who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you." -Galatians 5:7-8 This tells us clearly that the resource of this perversion is not God, but men. Paul's agrivation is seen in his re-naming of the circumcision to the 'Mutilation'. "I wish that those who trouble you would even mutilate themselves" -Galatians 5:12 He warned Christians to stay away from them, "Beware of the Mutilation! For we are the circumcision who worship God in the spirit." -Philippians 3:2-3 God warned Christians in the first century to be aware of this perversion and not to listen to false teachers. Notice the consequences of the error.



These are the consequences of this teaching:

- Fallen from grace
- Estranged from Christ
- Turning away from Christ
- Hindered from obeying the truth
- Troubled souls
- Christ will profit you nothing
- Turned to weak and beggarly elements
- Played the hypocrite

"Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the 'Circumcision'. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. But when I saw that they were not



straightforward about the 'truth of the gospel'

I said to Peter before them all, 'If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?' - Galatians 2:11-14

Character of the Error:

- A little leaven leavens the whole lump Galatians 5:9
- Error is preached to please men, not God Galatians 1:10-11; 2:4-6; 2:11-13; 4:17; 6:12-14
- Seeks to justify as an end result Galatians 2:16, 21; 3:11; 5:4
- Error deceives to 'Not obey the truth' Galatians 3:1; 5:7; 6:7
- Not 'Another' gospel but a perverted one Galatians 1:6-7; 5:8-9
- It fails to recognize the conditions of the covenant between God & man Galatians 4:21-31

Character of the Truth:

- +Truth constantly quotes scripture Galatians 3:8,10,11,12,13,16,22; 4:22,27,30
- +Truth can not change Galatians 1:8-9, 12; 3:15; 5:10
- +The Truth was already delivered Galatians 1:6-9; 4:4-5; Jude 3, Hebrews 1:1-2
- +Perversions were predicted II Corinthians 11:12-15; I Timothy 4:1-3 II Timothy 4:3; II Thessalonians 2:7