

Being Hindered From Running Well

Galatians 5:7-10

Intro:

- A. Paul often uses athletics and athletic events to illustrate spiritual truths.
 - 1. He does not use them personally to draw crowds or manipulate the curious.
 - 2. He writes of wrestlers, fighters, Runners.
- B. Why does Paul do this?
 - 1. They are decidedly carnal activities!
 - 2. Because of their universality, the olympics.
 - 3. Because they speak of discipline.
 - 4. Because they speak of effort.

I. The Galatians As Runners.

- A. **Vs. 7 "ye did run well;"**
 - 1. "Run" = τρεχω = "to run, to run a race".
 - 2. "Well" = καλως = well.
 - 3. "You were progressing nicely..."
 - 4. They were maturing and growing spiritually.
- B. **"...who did hinder you that you should not obey the truth"?**
 - 1. "Hinder" = εγκοπτω = "to cut in", "to thwart", "an olympic expression, and properly signifies coming across the course while a person is running in it and thereby jostling the person who is running and throwing him off course"
 - 2. "Obey" = πειθω = "to persuade", "win by words".
 - 3. "Truth" = αληθεια = "the manifested, veritable essence of a matter"; "reality".
 - 4. "Who threw you off course so that you did not continue to be persuaded by the truth"?
 - 5. They ran well, they messed up!

II. God Didn't Do It.

- A. **Vs.8 "This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you."**
 - 1. "Persuasion" = πεισμονη = "being easily persuaded".
 - 2. "Calleth" = καλεω = "to call anyone".
 - 3. "This error you embraced did not come from the one who called you" (to salvation, God)

- B. Men should accept responsibility for their beliefs and actions.
 - 1. Many blame others for their stumbling.
 - 2. The Pastor, the deacons, parents, the heat, the cold, the music, the musicians, the time, the circumstances, the weather, their health, the whatever... God does not tempt us with error, He does not send the apostles of Satan, Satan sends them.

III. The Consequence Of Their Error.

- A. **Vs. 9 "A little leaven leaventh the whole lump."**
 - 1. "Little" = μικρος = "small".
 - 2. "Leaven" = ζυμη = "leaven", "yeast".
 - 3. "Lump" = φυραμα = "that which is mixed, a lump or batch of dough".
 - 4. This means that the false doctrine of circumcision will affect and infect the entire church.
- B. Paul used this same illustration of the one person practicing immorality in the Corinthian church.
 - 1. **I Cor. 5:1-13**
 - 2. He expands it to other sins.
 - 3. This is based on the Passover.
 - 4. **Deut 16:1-3**

IV. The Person Who Led Them Astray.

- A. **Vs. 10 "I have confidence in you through the Lord..."**
 - 1. "Confidence" = πειθω = "to persuade", "win by words", "influence".
 - 2. "Through" = εν = "in"
 - 3. "I trust fully in the Lord..."
- B. **"...that ye will be none otherwise minded:"**
 - 1. "None" = ουδεις = "Not one".
 - 2. "Otherwise" = αλλος = "not the same".
 - 3. "Minded" = φρονεω = "to have intellect, to be minded, regard, care for".
 - 4. "You will not accept this contrary view."
- C. **"but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whoever he be."**
 - 1. "Troubleth" = ταρασσω = "to stir up, to agitate, as water in a pool"; of the mind, "to stir up", "to disturb with various emotions"..
 - 2. "Bear" = βασταζω = "to carry", "to assume".

3. "Judgment" = κριμα = "the decision arrived at, the sentence pronounced." This is not a decision to be made. The consequences of heresy are already decided. This preacher was already judged.
 4. Paul does not give him a name. He does name Peter earlier. He does use the name of James as a person who will condemn Peter and others who do not keep themselves Jewish.
- D. God will judge us.
1. **I Cor. 4:5**
 2. **II Cor. 4:10**
 3. "He that believeth not is condemned already."