

✓ 1. First Summary of the Sermon

Pastor Philip delivers this sermon based on Paul's letter to the Galatians 1:6-10 by expressing and relating Paul's astonishment that the believers are so quickly deserting the true gospel. He warns them not to accept any message contrary to what they had originally received -- even if it came from himself or an angel.

The sermon explores three key questions:

1. What is the source of the true gospel?
2. How do we discern truth from error?
3. And whose approval are we living for?

The source of truth is the true and living God, revealed in the Scriptures and confirmed through Jesus Christ. Truth is not relative; it is absolute and originates with God. Paul emphasizes that he did not create the gospel, but received it directly from the Lord Jesus.

Discerning truth requires spiritual maturity. And that kind of maturity comes from training our spiritual senses through the disciplined practice of studying the Bible which is the Word of God, and praying, fasting, worship, and obedience. By our faithful obedience we learn to distinguish between good and evil.

Finally, the sermon challenges us to live for the approval of God, not people, by doing all things as unto the Lord, with the goal of hearing Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

✓ 2. Scripture References with Descriptions

Reference	Description
Galatians 1:6-10	Paul rebukes the Galatians for turning to a false gospel and emphasizes the curse on anyone preaching a different message.
John 17:1-3	Jesus prays to the Father, defining eternal life as "knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ."
2 Timothy 3:15-17	Paul tells Timothy that Scripture equips believers for every good work and is useful for teaching and correction.
Jeremiah 10:10	Declares the Lord as the true God, the living God, and the eternal King.
Hebrews 5:12-14	Explains the need for spiritual maturity and training in discernment to distinguish good from evil.
Colossians 3:17, 22-25	Commands believers to do everything in Jesus' name and work wholeheartedly as for the Lord, not people.

Reference	Description
1 Thessalonians 2:1-14	Paul recounts his pure motives and God-pleasing ministry among the Thessalonians, urging them to live worthy lives.
1 John 3:19-24	Encourages confidence before God through obedience, faith in Christ, and loving one another.
Romans 3:4 Implied	(Implied: "Let God be true...") Affirms that God's truth stands, even if every human is a liar -- underscoring divine reliability.

✓ 3. Detailed List of Each Important Point

◆ *Astonishment at Desertion from the True Gospel*

- Paul is deeply surprised that the Galatians are so quickly abandoning the gospel of grace for a false message.
- He emphasizes that any other gospel -- even from himself or an angel -- is not the true gospel and is under God's curse.
- This departure shows a fundamental misunderstanding of the gospel's origin and purpose.

◆ *What Is the True Gospel?*

- We were dead in sin, separated from God, and could not save ourselves.
- We are saved **by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according to Scripture alone, for the glory of God alone.**
- The Galatians had begun to shift toward law-keeping as a means of salvation rather than trusting God's grace.

◆ *Question 1: What Is the Source of the True Gospel?*

- The true gospel originates from **the true and living God**, who is absolute truth.
- Truth has been revealed through Jesus Christ, and is communicated through the Scriptures, and confirmed by the Holy Spirit.
- Paul makes clear that he **received the gospel directly from the Lord** -- it was not his invention or human philosophy.
- Sharing the gospel is simply **passing along what has been received from the Lord** -- we are not the originators of the message.

◆ *Question 2: How Do We Discern What Is True?*

- We are bombarded with voices -- from God, the world, ourselves, and the devil -- all of which can sound alike.

- Discerning truth comes from **training our spiritual senses** through consistent practice of spiritual disciplines.
 - Just as physical senses are refined over time, so too spiritual discernment must be developed.
 - Hebrews 5 explains that mature believers distinguish good and evil through constant application and obedience.
 - Discernment involves **evaluating every message** -- whether from people, technology (e.g., ChatGPT), or spiritual experiences -- **by the Word of God**.
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◆ ***Spiritual Disciplines Needed for Discernment***

- Study and meditate on Scripture.
 - Apply God's Word.
 - Pray without ceasing.
 - Fast, to focus on God, over physical needs.
 - Take every thought captive.
 - Participate in church fellowship.
 - Serve, give generously, and evangelize.
 - Worship and glorify God continually.
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◆ ***Question 3: Whose Approval Are We Seeking?***

- We must **live to please God**, not to gain human approval.
 - Paul insists that his ministry is not driven by a desire to be liked but by **a calling to be faithful**.
 - Colossians and 1 Thessalonians affirm that everything we do should be done for the Lord -- with sincerity and reverence.
 - When we seek to please people, we miss the heart of God. Pleasing Him may also please others -- but that is not our goal.
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◆ ***Living with Confidence in God***

- 1 John reminds us that our assurance before God comes through obedience to His commands and faith in Jesus.
 - When our hearts condemn us, we look to the greater truth that God is greater and knows all.
 - Our confidence and answered prayers flow from living in alignment with God's will.
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◆ ***Warning Against Idolatry and Other Gospels***

- The greatest danger is not misinformation, but **idolatry** -- when our hearts worship anything but God.
 - We can worship our careers, families, hobbies, or ideologies -- these are the "other gospels" pulling us away.
 - True worship gives all of ourselves to the Lord in response to His revealed salvation.
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◆ **Final Prayer and Exhortation**

- The message ends with a prayer of surrender: asking the Lord to help us stay true to the gospel, to train our spiritual senses, and to walk in obedience.
 - We are sustained by God's faithfulness and the work of the Holy Spirit.
 - The call is to **follow hard after God** and live in devotion to the true gospel and Jesus Christ.
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✅ **4. Second Summary of the Sermon**

- In this sermon, Paul addresses the Galatians regarding their deviation from the true gospel. The Pastor begins by recalling what we learned last week from Galatians 1:1-5, where Paul establishes his authority and the gospel's foundation.
- In Galatians 1:6-10, Pastor Philip explains how Paul expresses astonishment at the Galatians' quick desertion of the true gospel. He emphasizes that the true gospel message is about salvation through grace alone, faith alone in Christ alone, according to scripture alone, for God's glory alone.
- The Pastor discusses three critical questions raised by Paul: the source of the true gospel, how to discern truth, and whose approval we should seek.
- He explains that the source of truth is the true and living God, emphasizing that truth is absolute and originates from God through His Word.
- Regarding discernment, the speaker explains that spiritual senses must be trained through constant practice and application of spiritual disciplines. This includes studying God's Word, prayer, fasting, fellowship, and worship.
- Finally, The Pastor addresses the question of whose approval we should seek, emphasizing Paul's message that we should seek God's approval rather than human approval. He references Colossians 3:17 and 1 Thessalonians 2:1-14 to illustrate this point.

Introduction to Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Pastor Philip introduces Paul's letter to the Galatians, focusing on the opening verses where Paul establishes his authority and presents the gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ.

The True Gospel Message

He explains the true gospel message is salvation through grace alone, faith alone, in Christ alone, according to scripture alone, for God's glory alone. He emphasizes how the Galatians had turned away from this truth, to "keeping the law."

The Source of Truth

The speaker discusses the first critical question about the source of truth, explaining that Truth comes from the true and living God, whose nature is truth, and who has communicated through Scripture and Jesus Christ.

Discerning Truth

Pastor Philip addresses how to discern truth among various voices, emphasizing the need for the training of our spiritual senses through obedience and consistent practice of spiritual disciplines.

Seeking God's Approval

The speaker discusses the importance of seeking God's approval rather than human approval, referencing Paul's teachings in Colossians and Thessalonians.

Action Items

Pastor Philip emphasizes the need to study and meditate on God's Word daily

He calls for practicing spiritual disciplines including prayer, fasting, and fellowship

He urges us to evaluate and compare all information sources against God's Scripture, The Bible.

He encourages us to seek God's approval, rather than human approval, in all actions

He calls for maintaining focus on the true gospel message, rather than "different gospels"