“The Truth of the Gospel”

Intro: The church was in its early days when the Apostle Paul took the ____________ of Jesus Christ to the Galatian peoples. As a result congregations of ____________ were springing up across Galatia.

A. But just about as soon as the churches sprung up, and with the Apostle moving along to carry the gospel to another area, ____________ ____________ entered into the church declaring Paul’s gospel to be inadequate for salvation.

B. In response to this attack against the gospel the Apostle Paul found it necessary to write this Galatian letter in ________________ of himself to defend his ________________.

C. Paul began to communicate that though he received the gospel independent of the Jerusalem Apostles their gospel was nevertheless the ____________ same ________________ that he had been proclaiming.

1. There was ___ ____________ between the Jerusalem Apostles gospel message and the gospel message preached by the Apostle Paul supporting the fact that Paul’s gospel was ___ ____________.

I. After 14 years of ________________ and missionary ________________ Paul along with Barnabas and Titus went up again to Jerusalem.

A. In Jerusalem Paul, by a voluntary act, _____ their ________________ and scrutiny, submitted to the Apostles James and Peter and John (cf. v. 9) the ________________ message he was preaching among the Gentiles.

1. This would either deny or ________________ that his gospel and the Jerusalem Apostles’ ________________ was one.

II. Paul and Barnabas brought ________________ with them to Jerusalem.

A. Phillip Ryken writes, “Titus served as the perfect ____________ ________ for the freedom of Paul’s gospel. Here was a man who had received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. ______ ____ or did he not also have to ____________ the requirements of _____ ________, epitomized by circumcision?”

1. The answer: James, Peter and John ______ ____ ____________, force, require, oblige nor coerce Titus to be circumcised.

B. If the Jerusalem Apostles would have required Titus to fulfill any Mosaic Law as a condition necessary unto salvation then the Judaizers would have won a great victory. But since this did not happen they were handed a great defeat. Paul’s ________________ preaching of salvation by grace through faith in Christ ________________!
C. The question of Titus’ need to be circumcised wouldn’t have been brought up except for and ______________ of the ______________ brethren. They forced a question where there had been no question. They made the ________ to Jerusalem ________________. Their false teaching and accusations were the reason Paul wanted to prove by the affirmation of the Jerusalem Apostles that he was not running in vain.

III. Some ________________ to be believers (“false brethren” or literally “pseudo-______________”) sneaked into the church.

A. They ________________, with ill motivation, pretending to be of the church crept around so as to spy out the liberty the believers possessed in Christ, and that for the purpose of ________________ them where they had found freedom.

B. Stott wisely writes, “It was not just a ________________ of circumcision and uncircumcision … It was a matter of fundamental importance regarding the truth of the gospel, namely, of Christian ________________ verses bondage. The Christian has been set free from the law in the sense that his acceptance before God depends entirely upon God’s grace in the death of Jesus Christ received by faith. To introduce the works of the law and make our acceptance depend on our obedience to rules and regulations was to bring a free man into ________________ again.”

C. The Apostle Paul did not yield to the demands of the false brethren for he understood that to ________________ grace at one point is to be ________________ completely.

1. By not yielding Paul maintained the gospel of grace so that this ________________, one and only, unique gospel would ________________ with us.

Amen, thanks be to God!

Conclusion: Beloved, if there is no grace than there is no salvation, and there is no church, and we are lost forever. The truth of the Gospel of ________________ must ________________ with us! We cannot fail on this point. This issue is of paramount importance. We are saved by the ________________ of God alone through faith alone in Christ ________________. If we lose this then we have lost all, but if we remain in the truth of the Gospel then we have gained everything.

Let us take for ourselves the admonition of Paul to the Galatian believers. Gal 5:1, “It was for ________________ that Christ set us free; therefore keep ________________ firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.” Let the truth of the gospel remain in you by living in the liberty you ________________ in Jesus ________________!