“To Be Known by God”

Intro: As we study this Lord’s Day, Paul moved from theological discourse to an impassioned appeal reasoning and ________________ with the Galatian believers that they might recognize their error, deny the non-gospel the false teachers were preaching, and strictly adhere to the true gospel of Jesus Christ which proclaims that we may be justified by ___________ alone in Christ alone.

I. Paul reminded the Galatians of the time when __________ ______ ______ ________ God.

   A. Speaking about their state of being before God adopted them as sons Paul said that at that time, when the Galatians did not know God, __________ “__________ ____________.”

   B. When the Galatians chose not to know God they also chose to __________ as “slaves to those which by nature are __ ______.”

      1. Before the one true God made sons of the Galatian believers their “gods” were gods of human imagination, gods ______________ the hands of __________, made of stone, wood and metal which were by their very nature, __________!

      2. The pagan peoples served and sacrificed to their dead idols in an ______________ to please them so as __ __________ their favor.

II. In contrast to the Galatians’ previous way of life when they did not know God being slaves to idols, ______, in immeasurable contrast, they “have come to know God, or rather to be ______________ ___ __________ ...”

   A. How did the Galatian believers come to know God? __________ in ________________ to God knowing them!

      1. We come to know God in a ________________ -driven ________________ to His knowing us!

      2. Salvation is ______ and cannot be ________________. Therefore Paul was exceedingly careful to state that the fault of the Galatians’ previous condition (when they did not know God and were slaves to “no gods”), lay upon them. But now, being __________, they must realize that they know God not because of any good they have done but because they were first known __ ___________.

III. Paul wanted to know how the Galatians, as those who had been freed from ________________ to idols as a result of being known by God, now ________________ to be enslaved all over ____________.
A. The Galatians were giving themselves to the ________________ of the Judaizers' O.T. rules and regulations (which were fulfilled in Christ). Ritualism was replacing true relationship! Form was ________________ love! Bondage to law was replacing ________________ in Christ!

B. ____ ________ from faith alone in Christ alone to anything ____ to turn back to the ________________ of sin.

C. DeHaan writes, “You who were delivered from your pagan religious rites, ceremonies and rituals and empty works into the grace and liberty of Christ, how can you turn back to put yourself under the laws, rituals, ceremonies and bondage of a fulfilled Judaism and ritualism? ‘Ye observe days and months and times and years.’ ______________ ______________ to you? says Paul.”

IV. Being the spiritual father he truly was Paul ______________ ______ the welfare of the Galatians’ ______________!

A. Being greatly alarmed for the Galatian people he so loved, Paul challenged them to ________________ their ________________ by wondering aloud if they were saved.

Finally then: Dear family, there is an eternity of difference between obedience to God as motivated by faith and love as the result of salvation, and obedience to God as a means to salvation. As the Galatians needed to remember that God’s grace came free so do we, for we are very prone to ____ ______________ whereby we seek to hear that we can be good enough to merit salvation.

We too need to ________________ that God made us sons as He saved us by His free and sovereign grace! It was after the Lord freed His people from the land of Egypt that He gave them this command: Deut 15:15, “And you shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your __________ ____________ you; ...” How well we would do to remember that we were a slave to sin, and the Lord our God redeemed us! Therefore, let us never desire to latch on to anything that would enslave us again, no matter how religious and appealing it sounds.

Dear church, God freed us from the slavery of sin making us _______ ________. And it is for freedoms sake that He has ________ us ________ therefore, let us never desire to be enslaved again.

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