



Paul's Letter to the Galatians

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Day 3 Galatians 2:1-5

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

Why is it important to know the Bible for yourself, instead of relying on others?

Look over these statements and decide whether this statement is found in the Bible (or is a biblical idea) or not. Circle the ones that are in the Bible. *Then read the scriptures following each one, asking how the statement lines up with Scripture:*

- God helps those who help themselves. (*Matt 16:24-26, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10*)
- God wants me to be happy. (*Philippians 4:11-12, and 2 Corinthians 1:8-10*)
- No one seeks God. (*Romans 3:10*)
- Cleanliness is next to godliness. (*Matthew 23:25-26*)
- We are all God's children. (*Ephesians 2:1-2 and 1 John 3:10*)
- The three wise men followed the star. (*Matthew 2:1-7*)
- God won't give you more than you can handle. (*2 Cor 1:8-10, 1 Cor 10:13*)
- We all worship the same God. (*Deuteronomy 4:39 and Acts 4:12*)
- Forgiveness is only required if the other person asks you to forgive them. (*Matthew 6:9-15, Matthew 18:21-22*)
- Satan can thwart God's plans. (*Job 1:6-12, Luke 22:31-32*)

Okay, in case I have you utterly confused, the only one found in the Bible is #3.

- God helps those who could NOT help themselves. We can't save ourselves, it is by grace we have been saved through faith. Ephesians 2:8
- God desires what is best for His children, and He wants us to trust Him in all things, even when we are facing suffering and persecution. Romans 5:3-5
- Nowhere in the Bible does it say that you have to have a perfectly neat home in order to please God. We are to be good stewards of what we have been given, but perfection is not attainable. Titus 2:3-5 tells women to be "workers at home" but nowhere does it say "keep your home spotless."

- We are either children of God, or we are children of wrath. Not every person in the world is part of God, therefore, not God's children, and therefore, God's wrath is still upon them and they are enemies of God. Romans 5:10
- The Bible never mentions how many wise men there were, simply that there were wise men plural. We have grown up with nativity scenes that show three wise men, so that is the tradition we follow, but it isn't based in Scripture. Matthew 2:1-7
- God absolutely will give you more than you can handle; so you may learn to rely on HIM ever more fully, knowing you cannot do it alone. He will bring us to our knees and remind us of Who is actually in charge. However, the verse misquoted there is actually that God will not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear and when we are tempted, He will always provide the way out. 2 Corinthians 1:8-10, and 1 Corinthians 10:13
- There is only one God, and He is found in the Bible. The god of Islam is not the same as the One True God. There is only ONE way to God, through Christ. John 14:6
- We are called to forgive others their sins against us, and there is no conditional statement given there. There is no "if they ask" or "when they die". We are called to forgive, period. Forgiveness does not mean what they did was okay, nor does forgiveness mean you enter back into relationship with someone who isn't safe. Forgiveness says "You have wronged me and I will not exact retribution" as opposed to anger which says "You have wronged me and I demand recompense and I want you to suffer for hurting me." Matthew 6:9-15, Matthew 18:21-22
- God is sovereign, and is never surprised. Satan can do *nothing* that God does not permit. Satan had to ask permission to do all the things he did to Job and he also asked to have Peter handed over to him. *Satan has to ask God*. Know this, then: whatever temptations and suffering you face, God is not surprised and, as Romans 8:28 says, for those who love God and who are called according to His purpose? He is working out all things (not just the good things) for His glory and for your sanctification. Job 1:6-12, Luke 22:31-32

As you spend time with God today, if you know that you are not spending enough time in His Word, that reading the Bible is the last priority on your list, confess that and repent. Ask Him to help you to fight the temptation to do other things when it is time to spend time with Him, or ask Him to help you to find ways to include others in your time with Him. (For those stay at home moms of little ones, I know it can seem like when you get up early to read your Bible, the little ones get up and need care then. Ask God to help you not to set Him aside, but to draw those precious little ones in to His Word with you.) If you are spending time with God, praise Him for the work He is doing in your life through His word. Ask Him to help you not to be boastful about that time, but ask Him to help you to understand His word deeper every day.