

“The Diagnostic Tools of God for My Heart”

Galatians 4:8-16

Series: *Justification by faith alone in Christ alone*

Paul uses two diagnostic tools to help the Galatians understand the severity of the situation of falling backwards into _____.

First Diagnostic Tool:

An emphasis on *Form* rather than *Message vv.8-11*

One of the ways we know things are not right in our Christian walk is that we find ourselves _____ back toward the way we were before Christ rescued us.

Evaluation Question: How do we know if we are drifting backwards?

Answer: There is a _____ to an observance of forms, rather than the transforming power of the gospel. It is the content, the message and the person of Christ that matter more than the external forms.

Solution: The solution is a _____ to God.

Second Diagnostic Tool: *A Lack of Joy vv.12-16*

Key verse: “*What then has become of the blessing you felt?*” (v. 15)

Where is the _____ that has come out of what God has done in your life through the *blessing* of your salvation/justification?

At the core of this is not feelings; the core is the _____ that comes from God through justification by faith, which leads to joy.

Paul has given us two diagnostics: Falling into *formalism* rather than being enamored with the message of truth. Secondly, there is a lack of *joy* in my life.

Paul’s Solution: Jesus Christ!

“*Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sins.*”
Romans 4:7-8

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