

Unpacking the Word

“Be Not Deceived, God is Not Mocked: A Perspective on Life After the Overturning of the Wisconsin Stay At Home Order”

Galatians 6:7-10 NKJV

*This message is in direct response to the WI Supreme Court’s overturning Governor Evers’ Stay at Home Order (a piece of his Badger BounceBack Plan).

Here is an excerpt of my manuscript:

“The ongoing, problematic politicization of COVID-19 in Wisconsin reached an all time high on Wednesday of last week as the Wisconsin Supreme Court’s ruling brought Governor Tony Ever’s stay at home mandate, a part of his Badger Bounce Back Plan, to an end.

This ruling, largely leaving communities throughout the state to make up their own guidelines - or not, could very well prove to be a harmful one.

In this familiar passage, Paul is battling the Judaizers who said that new Gentile converts still need to follow the law to be saved. Throughout this rough talking epistle, Paul warns the Judaizers to stop hindering these new believers from enjoying their new found faith. The Judaizers were plain wrong about justification, regeneration and sanctification, and Paul pulled no punches. Lives were at stake as these Judaizing legalists masqueraded about as if they had the new believers’ best interests at heart” (Walton, 2020).

The sermonic application points in this sermon centered around my commentary on the verses herein.

Briefly,

Verse 7 - God sees the heart. God knows the heart condition and pure or impure motivations of us all, including the most powerful politicians in our city, state, and country. Let us examine our motives, not just our actions.

Verse 8 - Whatever we plant (sow), we will harvest (reap). There can also be the “appearance” of planting good seed. Let us be aware that we are planting seeds for the near future (existing pandemic) and the distant future (when this phase of life is ended and a vaccine is in circulation).

Verse 9 - Let us not become weary and make rash decisions out of spiritual spoiled-ness. Instead, let us be patient. God is in charge of COVID-19. Daily, He will instruct. We must obey to have clarity through the Holy Spirit.

Verse 10 - This verse, and this whole passage, because the NT speaks to the CHURCH universal, has particular import to these trying times. Essentially, we should do good to all people - but especially to fellow believers in Christ. This means, in a pandemic, not to judge, make assumptions, observe social distancing, realize that each church family will proceed differently in re-opening facilities, and more.

Amen