It Sticks With You

The Ox and the Ass January 22, 2023

Galatia, AD 48

Galatians 1v3-4

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father...

Disruptive, Public, Mechanical Engines

In the Roman world of Galatia, Idols were everywhere and worshipping them was compulsory.

Paul's Gospel came from direct revelation of God, he didn't learn it from Peter or anyone else.

Galatians 2v6

And from those who were supposed to be acknowledged leaders (what they actually were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those leaders contributed nothing to me.

The Exodus & The 10 Plagues

But...It Sticks with You?

Galatians 1v15-16

15 But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased 16 to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being...

Damascus = Sinai

What else happened at Sinai?

Galatians 2v1
Then after fourteen years I went
up again to Jerusalem with
Barnabas, taking Titus along with
me.

The tension between Paul and Peter/James/John is starting to show.

Pillars = Temple = God's New Temple comprised of a people Paul's Damascus Road Experience (Acts 9); Not a Conversion; A whole new, unexpected understanding of how God would put the world back to rights; Gentiles

Galatians 1v17
17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.

Galatians 2v9

and when James and Cephas and John, who were acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

Galatians 2v11-14

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned; 12 for until certain people came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But after they came, he drew back and kept himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction. 13 And the other Jews joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that they were not acting consistently with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

The Ox & Ass in Nativity Art A God looking to form a multi-ethnic family united by the death and resurrection of Jesus and the invitation to experience a whole new way of being human!

The first attempt in human history at a multi-ethnic community.

One Family One Table One Multiethnic Church

Galatians 2v19-20

19 For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; 20 and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Paul is autobiographi cally telling us what he told Peter. Not about salvation but about who gets to be part of God's new families and under what conditions?

Galatians 2v15-16 15 We ourselves are lews by birth and not Gentile sinners; 16 yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in lesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law.