

Are We Preaching “Another” Gospel: A 31-Day Journey toward Rediscovering the Gospel of the Grace of God

by C. D. Hildebrand, 24-7-365 Version 2026

Day 30

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

Since we never saw preaching “another” gospel as meaning anything more than the false doctrines taught by cults, we never felt concerned about Paul declaring that anyone who preaches such a gospel is “accursed”. What used to worry us more was the following verse.

James 3:1

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

God went to great lengths to give us *His* gospel. We need to get it right. He doesn't want us to add to it or subtract from it.¹ If we are called as teachers, it is crucial that we share *the* gospel, the *whole* gospel, and *nothing* but the gospel with God's beloved sheep, not only because this is His bidding, but because we will give an account for what we teach.

It does matter what we teach. What we teach builds on the body of Christ. If we build well, our work will remain, and we will be rewarded. If we don't, our work will be lost along with our reward.

1 Corinthians 3:9-17

For we are God's fellow workers; you (plural) are God's field, you (plural) are God's building.

¹⁰ *According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it.*

But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹ *For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is **Jesus Christ**.* ¹² *Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,* ¹³ *each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.* ¹⁴ *If anyone's*

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Adding to the gospel would be to add requirements beyond grace and faith, such as law or works. Subtracting from the gospel would be something such as saying that because we are perfectly forgiven, it is ok to sin.

*work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. ¹⁶ Do you not know that you (plural) are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you (plural)? ¹⁷ **If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him.** For the temple of God is holy, which temple you (plural) are.*

This passage is directed primarily toward those who labor in the building of the body of Christ (v 7). The temple spoken of in verses 16-17 is the body of Christ. If you are called to build upon the foundation of the body of Christ, God is going to reward you for doing it well and “destroy” you if you don’t. You will still be saved (v 15), but your work will be consumed.

When we stand before Christ, we, those who build, will be held to a higher standard. If we feed His sheep the true gospel (gold, silver, and precious stones), our work will remain. If we teach “another” gospel (wood, hay, and straw), our work will be lost. Imagine how destroyed one would feel if their life's work were burned up.²

Since Jesus also told Peter to “care” for the sheep, then how we treat God’s flock will also be something for which we give an account. The many horror stories we’ve heard about how abusively some pastors treat those whom God has put in their care break our hearts. Many people have been *devastated* by their spiritual overseers, some of them so deeply that they vow never to enter a church again.

Brethren, these things should never happen, but they do.³ So many pastors forget these warnings and admonitions. They disregard that Jesus is the head of the church, not themselves.

Luke 17:1-2

*Then He said to the disciples, “It is impossible that no offenses should come, but **woe to him through whom they do come!** ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.*

Matthew 23:1-12

Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, ² saying:

² When we truly understand that we have taught another gospel, we want all of that to be burned.

³ If you have been a victim of spiritual abuse or you are a pastor who wants to avoid these types of things happening in your church or need to counsel someone who has been hurt in the past by someone in ministry, we highly recommend [The Subtle Power of Spiritual Abuse](#) by Jeff VanVonderen.

“The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. ³ Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. ⁴ For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. ⁵ But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. ⁶ They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷ greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’ ⁸ But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. ⁹ Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. ¹⁰ And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. ¹¹ But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹² And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Philippians 2:5-7

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

1 Peter 5:1-4

*The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: ² Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, **not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;***

*³ nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being **examples to the flock;** ⁴ and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.*

Dear friends, we are called to build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ. What an awesome trust He has given us. God’s people are His temple. If we defile the body of Christ by false teaching or mistreatment, we will give an account before God. It would be unjust of God to overlook these things.

You might say, “Well, that doesn’t sound like ‘grace’ to me,” but it profoundly is. The fact that someone who has taught “another” gospel or who has mistreated God’s sheep will have his works burned but still be saved is amazing grace indeed, for God deeply loves and identifies with His children.

But who among us wants to stand before Jesus with a pile of ashes at our feet? If you have been trusted with the care of God’s people, be sure that you love them with His love and teach them the true gospel.

