

### **BEWITCHED**

Today's lesson and text comes from next Sunday's lesson text of (Gal.3:1-5). Today's lesson comes from one word found in (Gal.3:1) **BEWITCHED**.

When I saw the word **BEWITCHED**, I thought of a song I heard Doris Day sing in the 1950's entitled, Bewitched, Bothered, and Bewildered. I remembered this line from this song, "I'm wild again, beguiled again, a simpering, whimpering child again, bewitched, bothered and bewildered am I."

(Gal.3:1) "O foolish Galatians (interjection of disapproval) (v.pl.m + anoetos) [without knowledge], who (tis/ nsm) has bewitched (baskaino/ a.a.ind.3ps) you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed (prographo/ a.p.ind.3ps) as crucified (stauroo/ perf.p.ptc.nsm) (John 19:30) (perf.p.ind.3ps)?"

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| <p><b>This lesson will study THREE aspects of how easily spiritual immature believers can become BEWITCHED.</b></p> |
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(Gal.1:6) "I am amazed that you are **so quickly** deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel."

#### **1. Paul connected foolish and bewitched as great dangers to grace and knowledge.**

Peter gives a doctrinal solution in:

(2 Pet.3:18) "But grow in the grace and knowledge (gnosis) of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

"**O foolish Galatians**" is a vocative of address.

There are two Greek words for bewitched: **existemi** (Acts 8:9, 11) [amazed or out of one's mind; or overwhelmed with wonder] and **baskaino** (Gal.3:1) [identifies it with witchcraft, demons, and evil thinking].

(1 Tim.4:1-2) "But the Spirit explicitly says that in the last times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the **hypocrisy of liars** seared in their own conscience as with branding iron."

Bewitched (baskaino) is idea of being hypnotized and seduced into intellectually evil. They were being charmed by evil away from the divine truth (Gal.1:6).

They were becoming confused about what to believe about the gospel of salvation and spiritually. They were being confused about what was true and what was the lie (Acts 15:1, 5, 11; 21:21).

#### **2. They were being bewitched by the Judaizers from the Jerusalem church (Acts 15:5, 10-11; Gal.2:12-14, 16, and 21).**

(Gal.1:7) "There are some who are **disturbing you** and want to **distort the gospel** of Christ."

Paul addressed the danger of the works gospel and works spirituality (Gal.2:21; 3:18, 21, 22-25; 4:11, 16, 20, and 31).

(Gal.6:12-13) “**Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to be circumcised**, simply so that they will not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For those who are circumcised do not even keep the Law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh.” ”

(Gal.5:1-4) “**It was for freedom that Christ set us free**; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. Behold **I, Paul say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you**. **And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law**. **You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.**” (James 2:10)

3. **You can be religious and you can be moral by doing the Law; but you cannot be saved or spiritual by doing it (Phil.3:1-9).**

## SALVATION

(1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; Rom.4:4-5)

(Phil.3:9) “**And may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.**”

(Gal.2:16) “Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have **believed in Christ Jesus**, so that we may be **justified by faith** in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified.”

(Gal.2:21) “I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, **then Christ died needlessly.**”

## SPIRITUALITY

(1 Cor.6:19-20; Rom.8:9-11; Gal.5:16-17)

(Gal.3:2-3) “This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing of faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”

(Gal.3:5) “So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by works of the Law or by hearing by faith?”