

### **REVERSE PROCESS REVERSIONISM**

Today's lesson comes from the rhetorical question of Gal.4:9.

We will examine it by the following four parts.

- ✓ How is it that (pos/ interrogative adverb) [how is it possible] – **astonishment of Pastor Teacher** (Gal.1:6-8; 3:1-3). Paul understood the seriousness of their actions even if they didn't (Gal.4:11) (kopaio/ perf.a.ind. ps).
- ✓ You turn back again (epistrepho/ pa.ind.2pl) palin (adverb) – **reversionism**
- ✓ To (epi+accusative of extent) the weak (ta asthenes/ apln) and worthless (ptochos/ apln) [poverty] elemental things (stoicheia/ apln) – **idolatry** (Gal.4:8)
- ✓ To which (hois/relative pronoun/ dpln) you desire (thelo/ p.a.ind.2pl) to be enslaved (douleuo/ p.a.infin) – **cosmos diabolicus** [worldly thinking] (Gal.2:4-6; 4:21; 5:1, 7) - All over (anothen/ adverb) [above or new again] again (adverb) – **reverse process reversionism**

<b>This lesson will study <u>four aspects</u> of Reverse Process Reversionism.</b>
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#### **1. Paul shows that they have attached a present desire for ritualistic legalism of the Judaizers because of a past desire (OMCD) to demonic idolatry.**

To correct this in the Christian Way of Life (CWL), they must learn to take off the Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) way of thinking regarding living in ritualistic bondage. This was hindering their spiritual growth advancement to super grace maturity (Heb.5:11-14).

Just as the ritualistic works system of demonic idolatrous religion couldn't deliver the unsaved Galatians from the slave market of Adam's Original Sin (AOS), neither can the ritualistic works system of Judaizer's legalism deliver the saved Galatians from the slavery of the Old Sin Nature (OSN) and OMCD.

"There are doubtless a good many church members today, devoted to ritual and rule-keeping, who have not yet realized that they are living in spiritual bondage. A serious and open-minded study of Galatians would help them not only to see that legalism is bondage but that real freedom is possible only through the grace of God in Jesus Christ," (Galatians: Freedom through Christ, pg.67)

#### **2. It is important to understand the difference between carnality, reversionism, and reverse process reversionism.**

**Carnality** is when a believer with positive volition to the revealed Directive Will of God still struggles with the lust-gratification of their OSN and walking by the Indwelling Holy Spirit. (Gal.5:16-17; 1 Cor.6:19-20; 1 John 1:9) [Prodigal son] (Luke 15:13, 30/ 18-21).

**Reversionism** is when a believer retrogresses from any stage of spiritual growth as a result of primary or secondary negative volition expressed through disobedience towards a revealed Directive Will of God (Jonah).

**NOTE:** All reversionistic believers are carnal but not all carnal believers are reversionistic.

**Reverse Process Reversionism (RPR)** is when a reversionistic believer reverts back to living out their OMCD beliefs and behaviors (Eph.4:21-24). His affections or emotional desires (thelo) are directed toward the spiritual inconsequential and away from the bona fide consequential of the Plan of God (Gal.4:8-9; Mastt.6:24; Ex.32) [golden calf - object of worship] (Matt.4:9; Rom.12:1-2).

**3. When a believer who is progressing spiritually because of positive volition to the revealed Directive Will of God hears false teaching, he compares it to the truth of God's word and then rejects that false teaching.**

But when a believer who is **retrogressing** spiritually because of negative volition to the revealed Directive Will of God hears false teachings, he refuses to compare it to the truth of God's word and accepts the false teaching as equal to Divine Truth.

**He becomes reversionistic and unteachable to the same Word of God, of his earlier spiritual growth, taught to him by his pastor-teacher (Gal.4:11; Heb.10:25).**

The believer in RPR becomes callous towards the categorical truth of God's word and towards those who are still engaged in their spiritual growth momentum (1 Tim.4:1-10; 6:3-5; Phil 3:17-19).

He seeks out teaching that fits his agenda. (2 Tim.4:3-5).

In RPR, the believer spurns the object of his first love in Christ for the object he once left and spurned in Christ (2 Pet.2:21-22) [carcasses (KJ) fell in wilderness] (kolon) (Heb.3:17; Num.14:29, 32).

- **Unsaved Galatians:** (Demonic idolatry) → heathenism → (Positive Volition) to the gospel of grace salvation
- **Saved Galatians:** (Positive Volition) → Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) - truth taught by their Pastor teacher (PT) Paul → and spiritually advancing in their spiritual growth
- **Spiritually Advancing Galatians:** (Negative Volition) → CBD truth → Judaizer legalism → reversionism
- **Reversionistic believer:** → Judaizer legalism → (Negative Volition) towards truth of CBD → RPR

**“So have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?” (Gal.4:16)**