

How are faith and good works related?

1

Faithfulness
is the only
thing that

Judaism

2

Faithfulness
is essential to
true Faith

Roman
Catholicism

3

Faithfulness
is a necessary
indicator of

Reformed
Protestantism

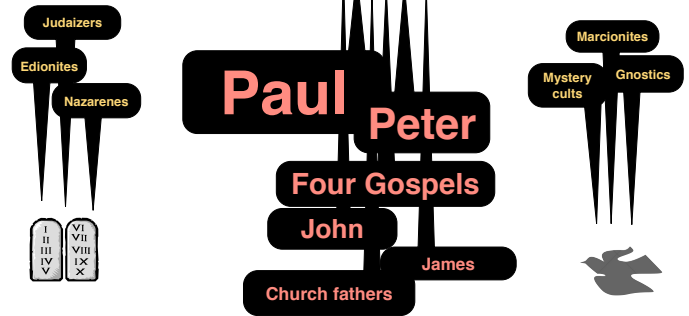
4

Faithfulness
is distinct from
true Faith

Radical
Grace

What would Paul have said
about these views?

Orthodox Christianity
developed from the
Apostles' teaching.



Paul's New Revelation

Ephesians 3:3-5

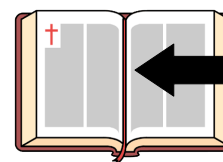
“that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, . . . which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;”



Old Testament

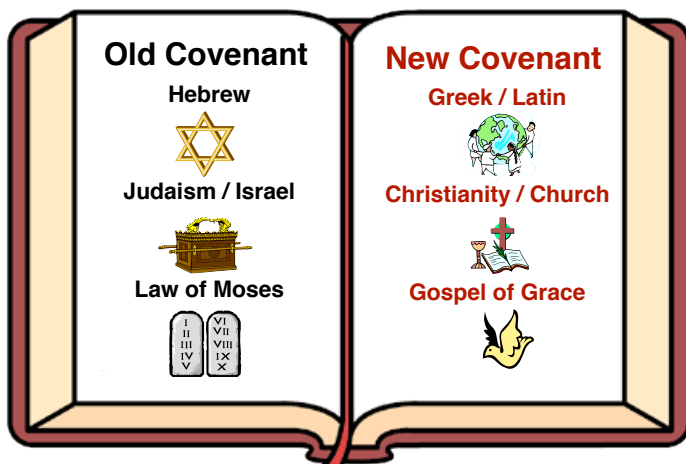
Gospels

Epistles



We interpret the Scriptures
through lenses of Biblical theology.

At first Christianity was seen as a sect of Judaism



1:6-9

GALATIANS

THE GOSPEL OF CHRISTIAN FREEDOM

Backsliding

Galatians 1

“⁶ I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; ⁷ which is {really} not another; only there are some who are disturbing you, and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed.”

1.

The absence of encouragement

Galatians begins with no word of thankfulness as in 1 Corinthians.

2.

The importance of teaching

The Gospel is a message about a remote event that we accept by faith.

3.

The path to “backsliding”

Winsome teacher - altered message - confused audience - reverse repentance.

Paul’s letters address
two major challenges



**Unorthodox
behavior**

Corinthians



**Unorthodox
belief**

Galatians

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

“¹ Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that **He was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; ⁷ then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; ⁸ and last of all, as it were to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.”

Ephesians 2:8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before hand, that we should walk in them.**”

The radical grace of God
must be taught.

When we displace it

We move away from God.

We make a very, very, serious error.

We remove the good news from the Gospel.