

**September 24, 2017**  
**Message**  
**Beware of Pseudo-Christianity**  
**Philippians 3:1-9**

**Introduction:**

- What is pseudo-Christianity?
  1. Pseudo means f\_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Any religion or philosophy that is put under the name of Christianity but does not reflect the t\_\_\_\_\_.
- There are two crucial areas that if compromised (either area), the philosophy or religion must be branded as anti-C\_\_\_\_\_.

**How Is a Person Saved? (2,4-9)**

- The apostle Paul warned the Philippian church against a group called Judaizers.
  1. He called them d\_\_\_\_\_, evil workers, belonging to the f\_\_\_\_\_ circumcision (v. 2)
    - a. In Jewish life dogs were considered un\_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. In Jewish life the keeping of traditional rules was considered g\_\_\_\_\_ works (Paul sees this as evil works since it leads away from salvation by grace).
    - c. The word circumcision literally means a cutting a\_\_\_\_\_ but Paul uses a different form that means a cutting down, which was what pagans did to get the attention of their gods (1Kgs 18:28,29). These Judaizers were using circumcision as a means of gaining God's saving grace.
  2. At one time the apostle Paul thought that salvation was because of his birth and his works (vv. 4-6)
  3. Paul came to realize that:
    - Salvation was by a r\_\_\_\_\_ with Christ as his Lord (literally, knowing personally – v. 8)
    - Righteousness was based on f\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ, not his own goodness – v. 9 (Christ did all the work).

● Application

- What are some pseudo-Christian religions that deny that salvation is by grace?
  - a. Jehovah's W\_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. M\_\_\_\_\_ (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) – believe in many degrees of salvation.
  - c. The Unification Church, Way International, Church of Christ Scientists,
- Gal 1:8,9 states that anyone who preaches a different g\_\_\_\_\_ than what has been preached, that those people are to be considered accursed (that is, condemned by God).

**Who is the Savior? (3,8,9)**

- All will agree that Jesus is the Savior but we must be more specific.
  1. Paul deems true circumcision as spiritual in nature and only those meeting the three following conditions qualify (v. 3)
    - a. Those who w\_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit of God
    - b. And g\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus
    - c. And put no confidence in the f\_\_\_\_\_ (that is, they don't base their salvation on birth or works).
  2. The following terms in these verses must be understood
    - a. God - Deut 4:35 declares that there is only \_\_\_\_\_ God.
    - b. Lord

- 1) In the O.T. the personal name of God is put in all capital letters (LORD), which translates the Hebrew name Yahweh (people often pronounce Yahweh as Jehovah).
  - 2) In the N.T. the personal name of God is translated into Greek as kurios, which often means master or sir.
- c. The Father, the Holy Spirit, and Jesus share the name Yahweh
- The Father – a given
  - Jesus (Rom 10:9-13, quoting Is 28:16 and Joel 2:32)
  - The Holy Spirit – 2 Cor 3:16-18

● Many deny the deity of Jesus, yet claim to be Christian

- Jehovah's Witness declare Jesus to be an a\_\_\_\_\_ that became human and teach that we must not worship Jesus.
- Mormons agree that Jesus is God, but that He is one of m\_\_\_\_\_
- The Church of Christ Scientists teach that Jesus was not divine but purely human and that Christ was a divine being that entered into Him at His baptism. They deny that Jesus is the C\_\_\_\_\_.
- Many pastors of mainline Christian denominations (beware of them).

● God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is the only S\_\_\_\_\_

(Isaiah 43:11)

- The Father d\_\_\_\_\_ the sinner to Christ (Jn 6:44)
- The Spirit c\_\_\_\_\_ the sinner and takes away the spiritual veil that covers the heart and blinds the mind (Jn 16:8,9; 2 Cor 3:16-18).
- The Son p\_\_\_\_\_ for sin and becomes our connection to the living God (1 Pet 3:18; 1 Tim 2:5).

**Conclusion:**

- Beware of false Christianity – these people need salvation
- Have you embraced Jesus as your personal Lord (God), your Savior, and your only connection to the living God (who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)?