

SOME CHURCH ATTENDEES STOP ATTENDING BECAUSE THEY HEAR A FALSE GOSPEL

If God elects who He will to regeneration then I should put my hope in election instead of Jesus. A faulty gospel message which misdefines God's election causes some church attendees to stop attending.

If God punishes Jesus in the place of God's chosen, then I should put my hope in penal substitution and in election instead of in Jesus who has power to change lives. A faulty gospel message which misdefines the substitutionary work of Christ gives some people a false security and leads some church attendees to stop attending. If your main hope in redemption is that God poured out His wrath on Jesus in your place and that God punished Jesus in your place so He could forgive your sin, then why struggle against sin and why should your sin really matter? This faulty gospel directs one's attention to the wrong focus. The truth is that God does not need to punish or be appeased of His wrath. God never changes, and God has no need to change in His attitude toward us. The true gospel focuses on a change in the life of the believer brought about by the life changing power of Jesus through our faith in Him.

Since God doesn't change His attitude toward sin, how can a man escape God's wrath toward sin? His sin must be taken away. He must be made a new creation. He must believe upon Jesus for sin removal and for being made righteous. And God promises to finish His work in the believer. There is no wrath of God against the righteous.

Since God doesn't change, since the penalty of sin is eternal separation from God, how can a man escape the penalty of sin? The man must be changed. The man must become righteous. God sees the end from the beginning. Righteousness is credited to the believer because God sees His completed work in the believer. The penalty of sin cannot be paid. The penalty of sin is eternal. A man must be removed from sin and be made into a righteous new creation. There is no penalty for righteousness. God has been declaring men righteous through faith in Him since Adam. Salvation involves a new position, a new experience, and a new mindset. "New position" is being declared righteous. "New experience" is being made righteous. "New mindset" is learning to let the Spirit of Christ control the new life.

