

Lesson: BEWITCHED, BOTHERED, AND BEWILDERED

When I saw the word **BEWITCHED**, I thought of a song recorded by Doris Day 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 (interjection of disapproval) **foolish** (vplm + anoetos/ without knowledge) Galatian), **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)?" (1 of 6 questions/ 3:1-5)

Note 6 questions asked in GAL.3:1-5.

Today's lesson deals with **SIX aspects of the first question regarding BEWITCHED, BOTHERED, AND BEWILDERED** from Gal.3:1 - **'Who has bewitched you before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly crucified?'**

1. This lesson shows how easily spiritual immature believers can become **BEWITCHED**. "I **am amazed** that you are **so quickly** deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, **for a different gospel**" (Gal.1:6)

Like Paul, Peter came to understand importance of spiritual growth in grace and knowledge in **2 Pet.3:18 (last verse):** "But(de/ contrast/ 3:17) grow (auxano/ p.a.impv.2pl) in the **grace (charis) and knowledge (gnosis)** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, **both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.**"

2. I want to call your attention to Paul connecting **foolish, bewitched, and eyes** as a great danger to doctrinal knowledge and spiritual advancement of faith in CWL (Christian Way of Life).

Note: "O foolish" consist of **interjection of disapproval** plus a vocative of address.

Note: **Bewitched (baskaino/** identifies it with foolish witchcraft, demons, and evil thinking).

"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." (1 Tim.4:1-2)

3. **Bewitched** has also the idea of **hypnotizing and seducing intellectually into evil**. They were being **charmed by evil** away from the divine truth (Gal.1:6).
 - They were confused about what to believe about the gospel of salvation and spiritually.
 - They were confused about what was true and what was the false (Acts 15:1, 5, 11; 21:21).

"O Foolish Galatians, **WHO bewitched you?**" IF IT CERTIANLY WASN'T ME, THEN WHO! (1 Tim.1:3-7)

4. They were bewitched by the Judaizers (works of flesh) from the Jerusalem Christian Church (Acts 15:1,5, 11/ Gal.2:12-14, 16, 21).

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

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

WORKS of FLESH: **“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.6:12-13)

5. *“**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.**” (Gal.5:1-4, 13; James 2:10)*
6. You can be religious and moral by obeying the Law; **but you cannot be saved nor be spiritual by obeying the law (Phil.3:1-9).**

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

*“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.**” (Phil.3:9)*

*“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.2:16)*

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

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

*“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.3:2-3)*

*“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?**” (Gal.3:5)*