

GALATIANS

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE



Galatians 1

2 Challenges from Judaizers.

1. Paul not authentic apostle.

vs.1 *“Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ...”*

2. Paul’s message is watered down.

vs.10 *“Or do I seek to please men?”*

Galatians 2:1-10

“Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain.”

vs. 2b (NLT) *“I wanted to make sure that we were in agreement, for fear that all my efforts had been wasted and I was running the race for nothing.”*

vs. 2b (Message) *“...exposing my years of work to denigration and endangering my present ministry.*

Summary Of Jerusalem Council

Acts 15:19-20

*“Therefore I judge that we should **not** **trouble** {not make it difficult (NLT)} those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood.”*

Adding anything to Jesus in order to be accepted by God threatens the very freedom of the church.

Galatians 2:21 *“I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”*

Galatians 5:4 *“...you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”*

Truth and freedom are at stake!

These three things happen:

1. Ministry to real people is going to be undone.
2. Our freedom is lost and we become slaves again.
3. We exchange the truth for a lie.

Galatians 2:11-21

“But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.”

vs 17-19 The Message

“Have some of you noticed that we are not yet perfect? (No great surprise, right?) And are you ready to make the accusation that since people like me, who go through Christ in order to get things right with God, aren't perfectly virtuous, Christ must therefore be an accessory to sin?

*“The accusation is frivolous. If I was “trying to be good,” I would be rebuilding the same old barn that I tore down. I would be acting as a charlatan. What actually took place is this: I tried keeping rules and working my head off to please God, and **it didn’t work**. So I quit being a “law man” so that I could be God’s man. **Christ’s life showed me how, and enabled me to do it.**”*

vs17-19 NLT

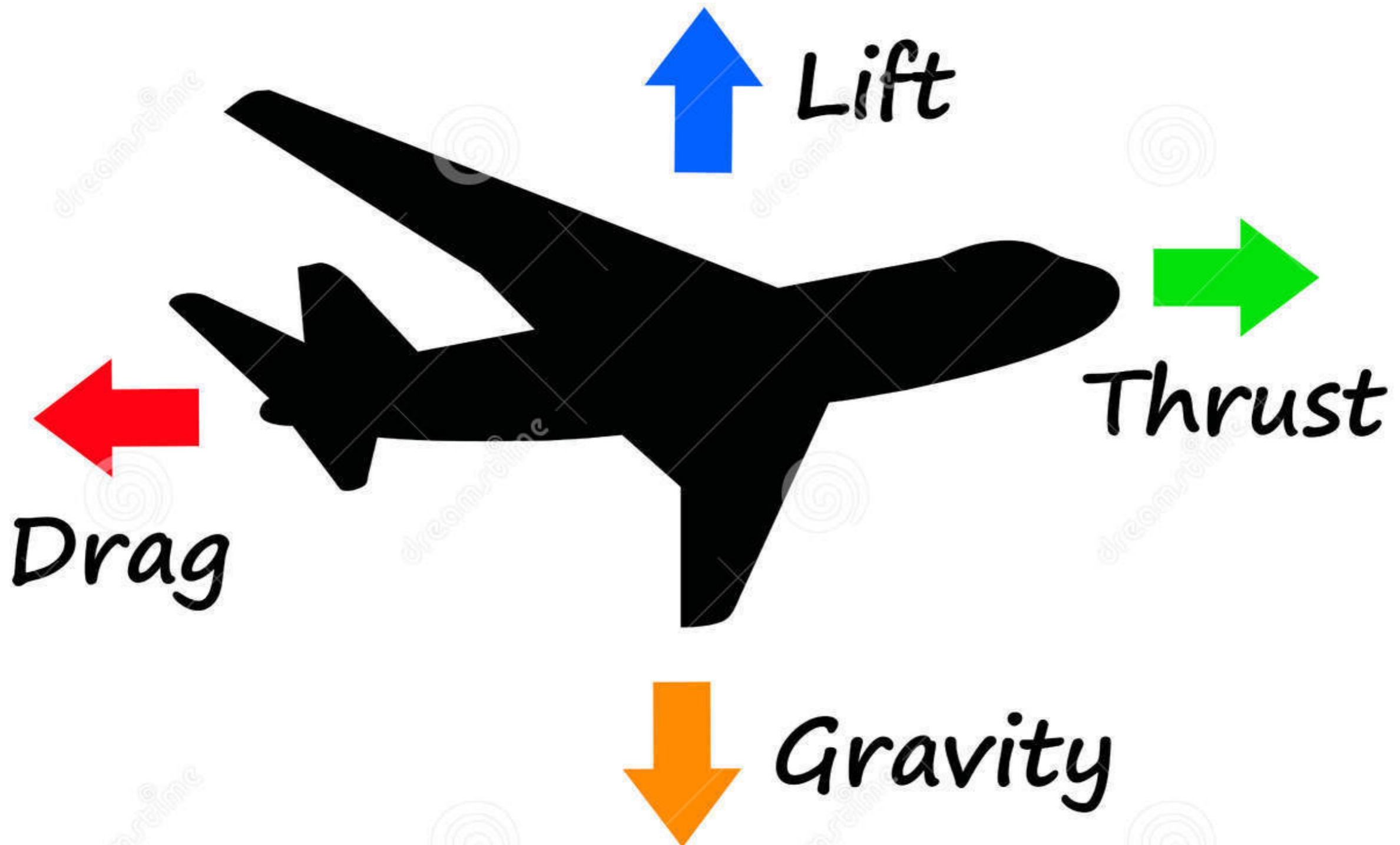
“But suppose we seek to be made right with God through faith in Christ and then we are found guilty because we have abandoned the law. Would that mean Christ has led us into sin? Absolutely not! ...

“... Rather, I am a sinner if I rebuild the old system of law I already tore down. For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law—I stopped trying to meet all its requirements—so that I might live for God.”

Teaching people to obey the rules to get God's approval isn't just **WRONG**
it is **SINFUL**.

Gravity — Law Perfect

Stay In Christ!



Galatians 2:20

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live IN the faith OF the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

When he speaks of “*the faith of Jesus Christ*” he is talking about Christ’s faith. When he speaks of our faith in Christ, he is talking about our faith. **Both are vital.**

“*The faith **OF** Jesus Christ*” — Our Saviour’s **faithful performance** of all the Father’s will as our covenant Surety, and Redeemer.

Colossians 3:3

“For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Philippians 3:9

“And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.”

Galatians 3:22

“But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”

I have been given the measure of the God kind of faith so that I can exercise that faith in the faith of Jesus Christ, His faithful performance.

Martin Luther - Galatians Com.

“This is the truth of the Gospel. It is also the principle article of all Christian doctrine, wherein the knowledge of all godliness consisteth. Most necessary it is, therefore, that we should know this article well, teach it unto others, and **beat it into their heads continually.**”

Andrew Womack - Galatians Com.

“There are people today who have taken the "dying to self" doctrine to an extreme, and instead of being free of self, they are totally self-centered.”

“The Christian life is not just hard to live--it's impossible to live in our human strength. The only way to walk in victory is to let Christ live through us.

“Paul experienced this death by simply reckoning what had already happened through Christ to be so. Failure to understand this simple truth is at **the root of all legalism and performance mentality.** The Law focuses on the outer man and tells it what it must do. Grace focuses on the inner man and tells it what is already done through Christ.”

By union with Christ we are radically transformed!

We can no longer go back to our old life, for in Christ we are “*a new creation*”

2 Corinthians 5:17 *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”*

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