

# Memory Verse

## *Philippians 1:7*

**It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.**

GRACELIFE



CHURCH



*A Great*

SALVATION

*Part 2*

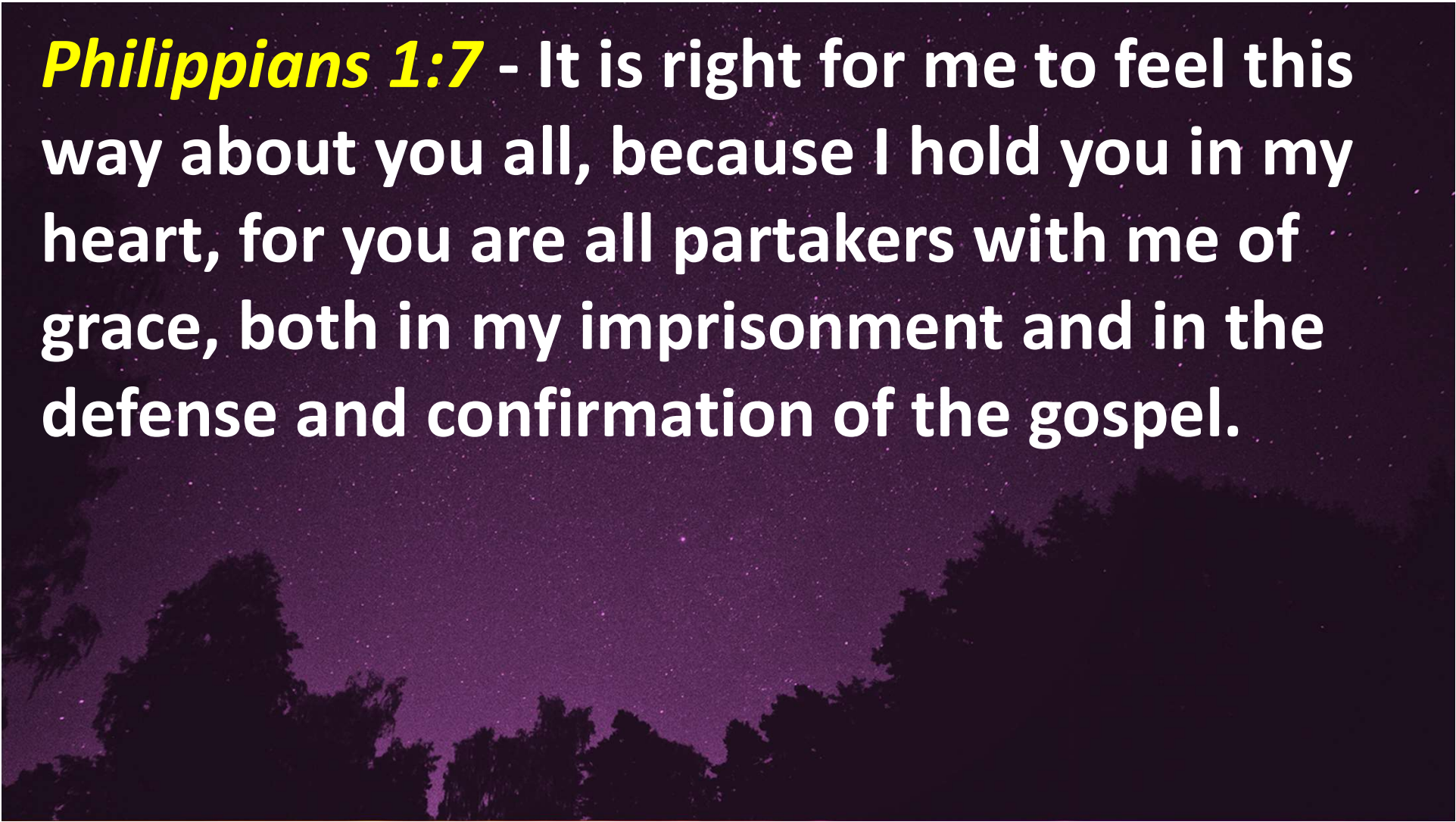
*Defending the Gospel 1*

*Philippians 1:7, 15-16*

The Gospel is *5 things*: **1.** Christ *died* for our sins, **2.** He was *buried*, **3.** He *physically arose* again on the *third day*, **4.** Was *seen* by many and, **5.** According to the *Scriptures*. We added that it is truth, believed by **grace** through **faith** in Christ, comes in word and power, is a confession of Jesus as Lord and more...

When you study *Rom. 15:16, 2 Cor. 2:12, 9:13, 11:7, Gal. 1:11-17, 1 Thess. 2:9*, you learn the *gospel of grace* is from the **Lord** and not man. Humans didn't invent it... It is *not man's idea*. Since it came from God, this means **He** owns it, defines it, and tells us what to do with it. We have **NO** right to change, modify, add to or subtract from it. *To do so is heresy and blasphemy against God...*





***Philippians 1:7*** - It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

## ***A. Defending the Gospel***

There are *only 2 views of salvation*: 1) ***Grace***, or 2) ***Works***. The Bible says salvation is by ***God's grace***, His gift to sinners who put their faith alone in Jesus alone.

If someone believes a *false gospel*, they are condemned! There is only heaven or hell...



## ***A. Defending the Gospel***

***First***, it is Biblical to defend the Gospel.

***Philippians 1:16b*** - ...I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. ***1 Peter 3:15*** - But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with gentleness and respect. – “*Defense*” is the Greek word – ***apologia***...

## ***A. Defending the Gospel***

***Galatians 1:6-9*** - I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is **not another**; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, **preach any other gospel** to you than what we have preached to you,



## ***A. Defending the Gospel***

let him be **accursed** (*eternally damned*). As we have said before, so now I say again, if **anyone preaches any other gospel** to you than what you have received, let him be **accursed**.

## ***A. Defending the Gospel***

***Jude 3*** - ...I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to **contend earnestly** for the **faith** which was once for all delivered to the saints.



## ***A. Defending the Gospel***

***Second***, it is wise to learn truth before studying error. The Biblical Gospel says salvation is a **gift of God's grace** alone received by **faith** alone in **Jesus** alone, based on **Scripture** alone. We *can't* do anything to get it or keep it. We have *offended His holiness*, and are *condemned by Him* because of our sin...



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**1. Works gospel** – This is the common lie in history and in **every** false religion, cult and in the church. *This is the **foundation** for all false gospels.*

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***Islam*** teaches if your good deeds outweigh your bad deeds, you go to heaven. If you are male, you marry 72 beautiful virgin women, have wine to drink and lots of food: Surah 2:25 and more.



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

*Muslims **don't** have **assurance** of salvation, unless they **die** in **Jihad** or "holy war." Many want us to believe this is only personal struggle against sin, but those in devout Islamic countries know it means dying in a religious war against their enemies.*



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***Catholicism*** teaches salvation is by grace, faith and works... “*initial grace*” is given by God at infant baptism, where original sin is erased...

The second ecumenical council of the Vatican or *Vatican 2*, began in October 1962 and ended on November 1965.

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

They stated, "This sacred synod teaches that the Church is necessary for salvation.

Whoever therefore, knowing the Catholic Church was made necessary by God through Jesus Christ, would refuse to enter her, or remain in her, could not be saved..." and "For it is through the Catholic Church alone, which is the all-embracing means of salvation, that



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

the fullness and means of salvation can be obtained (*Fast Facts on False Teachings*, p. 228.)”

The ***sacraments*** are part of God giving grace for salvation.



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***The Progressive Gospel*** views Jesus ***differently*** than historical Christianity. They view Jesus as a ***moral example*** who came to change systems of oppression, rather than change people from sinners to worshippers. They state you should ***follow certain rules*** or ***moral code***, rather than ***admitting you are a sinner in need of God's grace through faith in Christ.***

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

Many **deny** His *substitutionary death* in the *Progressive "Christian"* movement. Their "*gospel*" is focused on ***social justice, environmentalism,*** and a ***revisionist view*** of the Scriptures. Because of these things, they don't believe in individual salvation from sin, but *societal or corporate change based on the socioeconomical system of **Marxism.***



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***Biblical Response:*** Works based salvation is a **lie**. *Baptism* never saves anyone - *1 Peter 3:21* – There is also an antitype which now saves us – baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ... - An **antitype** is an earthly expression of a spiritual reality...



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***Galatians 2:16*** – ...a man is not justified (*declared righteous by God*) by the works of the Law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by **faith** in Christ and **not** by the works of the Law; for by the works of the Law no flesh shall be justified.

Read ***Galatians 3:1-11***.

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***Titus 3:4-5, 7a*** – ...having been justified by His grace...

***Ephesians 2:8-9*** – For by **grace** you have been saved through **faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the **gift** of God, **not of works**, so that no one should boast.



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**2. Ecological gospel** – *Global activism* is an example, though this is based on political agendas and Marxism. It has ***little to do*** with ecology. We must be informed, because the focus of “*going green*” is for another **green** - *money*. It is also based in ***Pantheism***. This says *all is god* and we are all connected so *in saving earth* or “*mother earth*” we save ourselves...



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**Biblical Response:** *Romans 1:18-25* - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**3. Social gospel** – This has been around for many years and goes by many names: ***Social Activism, Liberalism***, etc. People **rejected** the Bible, **denied** the Deity of Jesus, the miracles of Scripture and focused on the “***social***” teachings of the Bible – love your neighbor, feed the poor, help the needy, etc.

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**“I was with our team at Huntington Beach last Saturday when I noticed some teenagers with signs that said, “FREE HUGS.” It turns out that they were a Christian group sharing “God's love” with strangers, by giving them a hug. I asked the leader if the kids shared the gospel with the strangers they hugged. They didn't. It was “relationship evangelism.” Yes,**



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

they were going to Hell if they died in their sins, but they didn't want to be pushy. I encouraged him to have his team at least give out tracts to those they hugged, but he was in a hurry and had to leave before I could convince him to do so.



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

In a list of "Ten Ideas for Everyday Outreach," a leading Christian magazine recently suggested praying for people "as you walk by them," tell them you appreciate them, leave notes of encouragement, pick up trash, leave a thank you note for waiters, be friendly, etc.

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**If that's outreach, what are they reaching out for? Is it so that if sinners die in their sins they will think about how nice Christians were to them, and how they keep the sidewalks free of trash? They will need more than a hug, in Hell.**



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

I couldn't help but think of how bold a person has to be to run around with a sign that says "FREE HUGS." Surely there must be someone in their leadership that has read "How shall they hear without a preacher," and will steer these kids to be true and faithful witnesses. Then again, they may have got their hugs idea from the leading Christian



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

magazine, and therefore think that they are doing the right thing.

*Living Waters - Email – April 12, 2010*

*By Ray Comfort: Free Hugs... No Gospel*

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**Biblical Response:** We **are** to love our neighbor, **help** the poor and needy but **never** at the exclusion of *sharing the gospel*. We do *good things based on a changed life*, and **tell people** who changed our lives! God saves us for good works: ***Ephesians 2:10***, but we must **never** exclude the *message with the action*.



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**4. Health and Wealth gospel** – This is ***pervasive*** in the culture and world. Those who espouse this say God **guarantees** health and wealth to believers. They say *faith is a force, words contain that force and through the force of faith I can claim these things for myself. If they are not a reality in my life, I lack faith and it's my fault...*

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**Biblical Response:** These fools are **greedy!**

***2 Peter 2:3a***

***Jude 1:12, 16, 18*** warn believers that false teachers “*feed themselves*” or are greedy, “*follow their own sinful desires*” or “*their own ungodly passions.*”



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

In Scripture, ***persecution*** is guaranteed for the *faithful*. *Prosperity* and *health* are **not**. *How do you define prosperity and health?* It's ***subjective*** within a culture...

*Nowhere in the Bible is this **false gospel** substantiated as true.*

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**5. Political gospel** - This can also be called, the "*Cultural transformation gospel.*" This is the idea that if we **change society**, we change the country and world. Some say, "We must get the 10 Commandments, prayer, creation or Intelligent Design back in schools, etc. If we do this, then we will become a Christian nation again..."



## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

**Biblical Response:** We should ***vote***, use our ***freedom*** and ***do what we can*** to institute righteousness into our ***culture***, wherever we live, and ***be involved in every vocational arena!*** But politics, activism, enacting new laws, etc. are **not** the means by which a ***nation or people know God...***

## ***B. Responding to False Gospels***

***2 Timothy 4:1-2*** - I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: **2preach the word**; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and **teaching...**