Enduring Word – Challenging A Different Gospel

From: enduringword.com/bible-commentary/galatians-1/
04 - Galatians Lesson: Chapter 1, Question 4

Queston: 4. (1:6) What surprised Paul?

Many times, reading a verse from different Bible versions can be very helpful when trying to understand it.

Galatians 1:6
I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel ***(ESV)***

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel ***(KJV)***

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel ***(NKJV)***

I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News ***(NLT)***

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel ***(NIV)***

Commentary from David Guzik of Enduring Word on verse Galatians 1:6

I marvel that you are turning away so soon: Paul seemed amazed not so much that they were turning away (this might alarm him, but not amaze him), but that they were turning away so soon.

Missing here are the expressions of thanks or praise that Paul often wrote in the beginning of his letters. Romans 1:8-15, 1 Corinthians 1:4-9, Philippians 1:3-11, Colossians 1:3-8, and 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10 are each examples of Paul giving thanks and praising the churches in his opening words. But he did not do this with the Galatians and the directness of his approach indicates the severity of their problem.

"This is the sole instance where St. Paul omits to express his thanksgiving in addressing any church." (Quote from Gordon Lightfoot)