

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians



Sunday, January 7, 2018 Pastor Tom Gang

So far our textual study of Galatians has revealed _____ experiences from Paul's life in chapters 1-2 and key _____ arguments in chapters 3-4. As we enter the final section of this piercing epistle, chapters 5-6 divulge _____ issues surrounding the heated debate of law vs. grace. The opposition charged that abandoning a strict observance to the law would result in anarchy. They reasoned that if their high standard of rules were replaced with _____ the churches would collapse in dissension. While the false teachers refuse to comply with NT truths for various selfish motives, the average church member was simply following in ignorance. In today's text, the apostle begins to straighten out these foolish and self-serving aims. Here we will see that the believer who lives by _____ will not become a rebel, but display compassion with godly character. The legalists who base life on outward appearances and religious procedures will be the anarchist, always struggling with the flesh, caring only about self. The one law they will avoid is the very law they actually need—the law of _____.

THE LAW OF LOVE – GALATIANS 5:1-15

1. The freedoms of grace vs. the bondage of the law – Galatians 5:1-12

a. Live a life of _____ – verse 1

- The opposite:

A yoke of bondage

b. Live a profitable life – verses 2-6

- The opposite:

No profit

A debtor to the whole law

Christ is become of no effect

Ye are fallen from _____

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision availeth any thing

- The most profitable things:

The hope of righteousness by _____

Faith which worketh by _____

c. Live a life of _____ and direction – verses 7-12

- The opposite:

Hindrance

Disobedience to the truth

Persuaded by carnal foes

- The warnings:

A _____ leaven leaveneth the whole lump
The false teachers will be judged
Paul wanted them to be _____ from the churches

- The benefits:

Running well the race of life with God
_____ from other like-minded believers

2. The law of love – Galatians 5:13-15

- a. By _____ serve one another – verse 13

- Three ways of liberty to live your Christian life:

- 1- *Law*
- 2- *License*
- 3- *Love*

- The progression:

Law – If I obey the rules I will get more and more spiritual
I have the personal character to obey the rules and can achieve their high standards
I get better at obeying, because I don't do the things I used to do
Others compliment me for my personal discipline
I am better than many other believers in our church
I don't care much for those who have lower standards than I have
The church is fortunate to have me as a member
I should be in the position of teaching others how to be as spiritual as I am

License – I have been saved by grace thru faith in Christ
I know I will not face eternal damnation for my sins
When I die, no matter what I do, I will still go to heaven because I'm saved
Because of this, I can still do things that I want to do even if they're wrong
I sometimes feel bad doing it, but the bad things feel so good
I have no peace in my life; things always seem to be a mess
Why is life so heavy? Why is God letting this happen to me?

Love – I have been set free by faith in Christ and am no longer in bondage

I cannot do it myself; I want the Holy Spirit to be in complete control of my life

I submit myself to the grace of God each day through prayer and believe what the Bible says by faith even though it goes against my flesh

My life is peaceable and stable from deep within; I thank God for making me a new creature and giving me such a good life

I want to love and serve God and others, placing them before my own selfish desires

- The only way to live:

Liberty + Love = service to others

(Liberty – Love = License and bondage to blatant sin)

(Law = Self-righteousness and bondage to secret sins)

- b. _____ thy neighbor as thyself – verses 14-15

- The opposite:

Biting and devouring one another

Run the risk of being consumed one of another

3. The practical conclusion

- Living daily by the _____ of God gives every believer _____ to do anything and everything that is right and produces a heart full of genuine _____ toward God and others