

# The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians

Sunday, February 4, 2018 Pastor Tom Gang

Today we enter the final section of our Galatians study. Back in chapters 1-2 we saw Paul make compelling \_\_\_\_\_ arguments against the false doctrine of works salvation being taught by the Judaizers who were plaguing the churches. Then, the apostle strengthened his debate with sound \_\_\_\_\_ defenses in chapters 3-4. By the time we reached chapter 5 the true nature of the opposition was revealed through the *law of love*—a command they refused to obey and cannot even counterfeit. As we enter chapter 6, Paul's final dispute begins by exposing the true character of \_\_\_\_\_ toward others, which is in sharp contrast to the behavior of the false teachers. After all, nothing reveals the wickedness of the legalist more than how they shamefully treat those who have been overtaken by a fault.

## THE LAW OF CHRIST – GALATIANS 6:1-6

### 1. Defining the law of Christ

#### a. What it is

- It is the law of \_\_\_\_\_ found in Galatians 5:13-14
- Jesus spoke of this law in Matthew 22:36-40; John 13:34-35; 15:12, 17
- James called it the \_\_\_\_\_ law – James 2:8

#### b. What it is not

- It is not a law or rule understood or practiced by the legalizers (those that major on laws and rules) in the Galatian churches; it is \_\_\_\_\_ in their human nature to fulfill the law of Christ, because they are accursed lost men only interested in self – Galatians 1:6-9

Jesus spoke of this self-glorifying activity in Matthew 23:1-7

### 2. Discerning the text – Galatians 6:1-6

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b. Personal self-examination (introspection) – verses 3-5; Matthew 7:1-5

c. Returning the \_\_\_\_\_ – verse 6

- When someone overtaken by a fault is restored they now have an obligation to “communicate” to the one that helped them. By returning the love given, the circle of love is complete. This ensures love’s continual \_\_\_\_\_ and expansion.

3. The practical conclusion

- While the legalizer and his legalism add extra weight and burden, a true brother or sister seeks to lift and bear the burdens of others, whether they be lost or saved. This is in accord with the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.