

Galatians 6

Jesus

- **Ch. 1** Paul amazed Galatians hoodwinked by Legalist/Jesus not enough...must be circumcised to be saved

Galatians 1:9 ... if anyone preaches **any other gospel** to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

- **Ch. 2** Paul's personal experience as a legalist now saved by Grace

Galatians 2:20b... the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, **then Christ died in vain.**"

- **Ch. 3** Rebuke for believing they could keep the Law by their own effort

Galatians 3:3 Are you so foolish? **Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?**... **10** For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." **11** But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for **"the just shall live by faith."**

- **Ch. 4** Reminds them of their true identity: You are sons of God. Why are you acting like slaves to the Law?

Galatians 4:6 ...because you are sons, God has sent forth the **Spirit of His Son into your hearts**, crying out, "Abba, Father!" **7** Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

- **Ch. 5** Encourages those who want to please Jesus: Love fulfills the entire law!

Galatians 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: **"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** [not able to love in the flesh] ...**16** I say then: **Walk in the Spirit**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh... **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also **walk in the Spirit**. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

- **Abundant Life of Walking with God in His Spirit:** Nothing to with the Law of God

1. Cooperating w/ the Spirit of God
2. Relinquishing our will for His every day
3. Getting in-line with God's agenda/**Bearing fruit to His glory**

- **Ch. 6 makes certain assumptions about the reader...**

1. He/she has read chapters 1-5
2. Understand the law cannot save
3. Understand we are saved by Grace not works
4. Understand that Love fulfills the entire Law
5. Paul assumes the reader really **wants to Love and do good**

- **Addresses a new type of pride that may arise...**

1. Previously pride through legalism
2. **Now....Danger of Pride as** we grow/bear fruit see real stuff happening

We want to be great Christians. Problem? The minute we think we are we are not.

- **Q. Now what? A. Focus on helping others grow...**

I. Restoration Give 'em a Leg Up

1 Brethren, if a man is **overtaken in any trespass**, you who are spiritual

restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

- **Overtaken in trespass:** Caught in undertow of a sin w/ a desire to get out

Paul's wording here speaks not of a determined and hardened sinner. Instead, the idea is of someone who has fallen into sin, finding themselves trapped in a place they never thought they would be. [Guzik]

- **Restore:** Lit. Brought back to their former condition; as in mending a net

Matthew 12:20 A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench

Poor guy is Overtaken...Tangled up in his own sin
You see it...what do you do?

- **Before correcting others:** Check yourself by asking yourself...
 1. **Am I Spiritual?** Walking in the Spirit
 2. **Am I coming in Gentleness?** Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit

If you are not walking in the Spirit of Gentleness/Humility...**stay home**

Matthew 7:3 [Some are just sin sniffers] ... why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye? ⁵Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

If Jesus delivered us...then Jesus delivered us
Pride has no place in a believer's life...None

- See someone struggling? Before helping ask...
 1. **Am I Spiritual?** Walking in the Spirit
 2. **Am I coming in Gentleness?** Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit

Ephesians 4:2 ... with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bear... with one another in love...

- Are you going to them to help carry the load or to add to it?

2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Another definition of loving others as self? Bear each other's burdens
Bearing one another's burdens fulfills the law of Christ

- **Bear their burden:** Idea helping off of the heavy load.
 1. Pray with them/for them
 2. Encouragement them yet...
 3. Speak truth w/out compromise. **Bear their burden...**

This is a simple command to obey. Look for a brother or a sister with a burden, and help

them with it. It isn't complicated, and it doesn't take a huge program or infrastructure to do it. Just look for a burden to bear and bear it. [Guzik]

- **Don't add to it...** as the legalists were doing. Grace, grace, grace...

... do not aggravate his grief, do not scold him, do not condemn him, but lift him up and gently restore his faith." [Luther] [Like throwing a rock to a drowning man]

Job 16:2 [Unlike Job's friends] ... Miserable comforters are you all! 3 Shall words of [your] wind **have an end?**

3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he **deceives himself.**

- We are all nothing without the Spirit of God/His work in our lives...

Those who think they are something when they are nothing deceive themselves
The person you are looking down on may be closer to Jesus than you?

Luke 18:10 Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus **with himself**, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' 13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but **beat his breast**, saying, 'God, be merciful to **me a sinner!**' 14 I tell you; this man went down to his house **justified** rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

The deceived do not know they are deceived

- We can be self-deceived unless we actively consider our condition...
 1. **Am I Spiritual?** Walking in the Spirit
 2. **Am I coming in Gentleness?** Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 10:12 ...let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

Give 'em a Leg Up

1 Thessalonians 5:14 ... comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

- **Fleshly tendency:** Look down, judge, gossip about
- **Instead:** Ch 5 Walk in the Spirit

...restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think**, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Consider yourself lest you also be tempted.
Someday you might need their help

- Don't be self-deceived...

4 But let each one **examine his own work**, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. 5 For each one shall bear his own load.

- **God encourages us to...**

1. Rejoice in the work He is doing in your own life
2. Refrain from rejoicing the apparent lack of work in someone else

Romans 14:4 Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

- For each one will bear his own load at Judgment...

Romans 14:10 But why do you **judge your brother**? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the **judgment seat of Christ ... 12** So then each of us shall give account of himself to God. 13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

... if a man is **overtaken in any trespass**,

You who are spiritual **restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness**

Galatians 5:22 ...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law...**25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

SUMMARY Restoration Give 'Em a Leg Up. Desire their best at your expense

II. Do Good as Led by the Spirit

6 Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

- **Gifts every week:** Grace in action. Not payment but sharing
- Temporal needs of those who labor in the Word

Exodus 36:5b... [Craftsmen say we have enough for the Tabernacle] "The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work which the Lord commanded us to do." 6 So Moses gave a commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, "Let neither man nor woman do any more work for the offering of the sanctuary." And the people were restrained from bringing, 7 for the material they had was sufficient for all the work to be done—**indeed too much.**

- God's faithfulness through God's people has been mind-blowing

7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Do not deceive yourself/God will not be mocked

Q. Why can't we do whatever we want? **A.** You can, but there will be consequences

▪ **With regard to Salvation ...**

1. Walking in the Flesh will lead to Eternal Death
2. Walking in the Spirit will lead to Eternal Life
3. Lifestyle **reveals** if we are saved/not. Believers/Make-believers/Wheat/Chaff

Christians can walk in the flesh for a time...but a Christian will not continue in the Flesh

1. **Works done in the Flesh** Loss of Eternal Reward
2. **Works done in the Spirit** Gain Eternal Reward

1 Corinthians 3:12 [Bema Seat Christ] ... if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, **he will receive a reward.** 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will **suffer loss**; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- **Live in mansion or live in a box?** State at we leave the Bema seat is forever
- God is not mocked...

Everyone [Christian or not] *will reap what they sow.*

The Consequences of Walking in the Flesh are Always Eternal

- **For the unbeliever:** Separation from God... forever
- **For the believer:** Lack of eternal reward...forever

I want the Reward. I want to finish well.

I want to please God by Walking in the Spirit and Loving others

9 And let us not grow weary while **doing good**, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

- **Great promise from God...**

Hebrews 10:35 ...do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. 36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: 37 "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

- Our endurance comes from faith in **the promise of reward!**
- **No participation ribbons in Heaven:** Reward based on obedience....

1 Corinthians 15:58 ... be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is **not in vain** in the Lord.

- Paul says the same thing again...

2 Thessalonians 3:13 But as for you, brethren, **do not grow weary in doing good.**

- We grow weary in doing good when we have *expectations of others*

Hebrews 12:3 ...consider [Jesus] who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself,

lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls...

- Jesus was not discouraged by people/**took courage in the Father to press on...**

Isaiah 50:7 For the Lord God will help Me... I will not be disgraced; **Therefore** I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

- We will not lose heart in doing good as we understand the **reward is future...**

James 5:7 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us **do good to all**, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Proverbs 3:27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due when it is in the power of your hand to do so.

- Good Works as led by the Spirit are the very **works of God...**

John 9:4 I must work the **works of Him who sent Me...**

Titus 3:8 This is a faithful saying... those who have believed in God should **be careful to maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable to men.

- We do good because God is good and working through us
- **Especially:** Look for opportunities to do good to those in the Church

Where do good works come in? Good works have nothing to do with Salvation

Good works have everything to do w/pleasing Jesus for what He has done and will do for us

Ephesians 2:4 [We were spiritually dead...] But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might **show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us** in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in **Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand that we should **walk in them**.

SUMMARY Do Good as Led by the Spirit

III. The Cross. The Cross. The Cross.

11 See with what **large letters** I have written to you with **my own hand!**

- **Paul had eye problems...**

2 Corinthians 12:8 [Key verse] ... I pleaded with the Lord three times that **it might depart from me**. 9 And He said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you**, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, most gladly I will rather **boast in my infirmities**, that the **power of Christ** may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in

1. **Our Message?** The Cross of Christ. Your good-deeds and wisdom cannot save you.
2. **Their Response?** Mostly Rejection/Persecution...but sometimes Salvation

Psalm 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom

We are not to fear man but God! The fear of God is clean Psalm 19:9

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord **shall be safe.**

- **Safe? A. Safe Eternally...**

Luke 21:16 [There will be persecution for those who preach the cross] You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will **put some of you to death.** 17 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. 18 **But not a hair of your head shall be lost.**

- Some of you will be out to death/But not a hair of your head shall be lost...in heaven!
- Eternally safe but not necessarily getting out alive

**There is a cost of preaching the Cross...Eternal Benefits far outweigh the cost
Eternal Life for those who accept the Message!**

- Judaizers knew they would be persecuted if they preached the Cross alone
 1. **Compelling their prey:** Lit. pressure as in a sales pitch
 2. They want you to join them **so they would not suffer**

The Temptation to remove the Cross/Blood from the Gospel is from the Devil

- **Devil tempting Jesus in the wilderness. Skip the cross take the world...Get behind Me**

Matthew 16:23 [Jesus to Peter...] "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

- **The Cross is the only is the only means of man salvation**
- **Do you want to please man or God? Preach the cross!**

Galatians 1:9 ... if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received [the Cross], let him be accursed. 10 For do I now persuade [please] men, or God? **Or do I seek to please men?** For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

- Fear of God or Man? You can't have both...who do you want a pat on the back from?

John 5:44 How can you believe, who **receive honor from one another**, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?

John 12:42b... the Pharisees did not confess Jesus, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they **loved the praise of men** more than the praise of God.

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

- The Cross says you are a sinner...not a good person
- The Cross says you need a Savior and cannot save yourself

- The Cross says you're not good enough or wise enough

The Cross of Jesus is the only means of Salvation

- **The Cross of Jesus...**

1. ...for those who are being saved it is **our only hope**.
2. ...for those who are perishing it is an **offense provoking retaliation**

Galatians 5:11 ... if I still preach [salvation by works], why do I still suffer persecution?
Then the offense of the cross has ceased.

- **Paul was courageous preaching Cross/Overwhelmed by Grace**

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the **power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

- Peter now restored pulled no punches preaching the offensive Cross

Acts 2:23 [Jesus was...] delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, **you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified**, and put to death; 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. ... **36** "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, **whom you crucified**, both Lord and Christ." 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "**Repent ... 40** And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about **three thousand souls** were added to them.

Our response to the Cross reveals either our Pride or Humility

- **An honest gaze at the cross:** Exposes the ugliness of man's sin...our sin
- **An honest gaze at the Cross:** Demands a response...bow our head vs shake our fist

The Cross is only an offense to the Proud...

1. You are a wretched sinner in need of a Savior. What say you?
2. Jesus hung on a Cross to pay for your sin...Repent and turn to Him

Only the preaching of the Cross can produce repentance leading to true conversion
 Saved by Grace through Faith. **The Cross is where Grace was displayed before all men**

Hebrews 2:3 ...how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation

- We come to Jesus by grace or we don't come to Jesus at all.

Legalists make a good showing: Religious buffoons...

13 [Yet] not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

**They want you to be circumcised so they can parade you before others
 The more takers the more they are convinced what they are doing is correct**

- **The motive of Religion is...**

1. **Fear of Man:** Wanting to please the masses
2. **Pride in Deception...**Boasting of how many they can sign up...
 - So and so came to the Kingdom Hall
 - So and so was married in the Temple
 - So and so came to Church on Saturday

How about so and so repented and fell on their face at the foot of the Cross?

14 But God forbid that I should boast **except in the cross** of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the **world has been crucified to me**, and I to the world.

1 Corinthians 1:18 ... the **message [lit. the Word] of the cross** is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved **it is the power of God.**

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

- They boast in themselves...I will boast in only the Cross of Jesus Christ

It's all I have. It's all I need. I cling to the Cross! I boast in the Cross not in myself

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags...

The satanic world system is dead to me... I am dead to the world.
World is not my home. The things of the world are meaningless to me!

15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a **new creation.**

Galatians 6:15 [NIV] Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; **what counts is the new creation.**

- The only thing that means anything is being who we are; i.e., **a New Creation**

16 And as many as walk **according to this rule**, peace and mercy be upon them, and **upon the Israel of God.**

Walk in accordance with "who you truly are now" in Christ. New Creation

- **Peace/Mercy be upon the Israel of God?** All God's people

Ephesians 2:14 [Jesus] is our peace, who has made both [Jew/Gentile] one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity...so as to create in Himself **one new man from the two**, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body **through the cross...** 18 For through Him we both have access by **one Spirit to the Father.**

- **No Jewish/Christian Religion:** Either Christ's or you're not. New Creation or not

17 From now on **let no one trouble me**, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

- **Let no one trouble me. Why?**

1. They have no marks of suffering for Jesus
2. I bear the marks of suffering for Jesus

I don't have notches on my belt for you...I have wounds on my body for you

Acts 9:15 [Tell Saul/Paul] ... he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must **suffer for My name's sake.**

- False-apostles/teachers do not suffer for the Name of Christ...

2 Corinthians 11:23 Are they ministers of Christ? ...I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. 24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness— 28 besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: **my deep concern for all the churches...**

- Paul suffered for both Jesus' sake/sake of the Churches...

Colossians 1:24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, **which is the church**

- Salvation/Suffering are a packaged deal...**Eternal Battle that we win**

2 Timothy 3:12 ... all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 13 But **evil men and impostors** will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

- Don't even send those guys to me...fakes/frauds

They don't have the authority/experience to trouble me

Funny how those with no scars for the faith continue to spout off/cause trouble

- God's Grace was sufficient for Jesus/Paul. Will be for us also at persecution

JV. McGee: Not ready yet for persecution now but He will give me the Grace when I need it.

18 Brethren, the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Paraphrase: May the kindness of Jesus motivate you, strengthen you, and give you victory in your life today and always. Amen

- **Justification by Grace not works...**

When the article of justification [doctrine of salvation by grace through faith] has fallen, everything has fallen ... This is the chief article from which all other doctrines have flowed... It alone begets, nourishes, builds, preserves, and defends the church of God; and without it

the church of God cannot exist for one hour. Justification is the master and prince, the lord, the ruler, and the judge over all kinds of doctrines. [Martin Luther]

- **Book of Galatians:** How is a soul saved? We must get this Right...

Jesus plus *nothing* equals Salvation

Grace Alone through Faith Alone in Christ Alone. Period.