

"WITH LIBERTY & JUSTIFICATION FOR ALL!"

Galatians Chapter 2

I) GIVE ME LIBERTY! (v1-10)

(v1) The who's who of men of God: *Barnabas* (son of encouragement) & *Titus* (pleasant)

(v2) Paul views his Christian faith like an athlete heading to victory:

"Run Christian Run"-

- Run with HEART! - 1 Corinthians 9:24 - *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but {only} one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.*
- Be MENTALLY strong! - Galatians 5:7 - *Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?*
- Have the SOUL (WILL) to win! - Philippians 2:14-16 - *Do all things without grumbling or disputing; that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may have cause to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.*
- Have SPIRITUAL vision! - Hebrews 12:1-2 - *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*
- Go for the GLORY! - 2 Tim 4:7-8 - *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*

(v3-10) Declaration Of Independence- Acts 15 (His-Story)

II) AND JUSTIFICATION FOR ALL! (v11-21)

(v11-14) A.F. Harper comments on Element of Moral Cowardice:

- (1) Fear of our friends can make us compromise our moral convictions (v11-12)
- (2) Personal compromise influences others to do the wrong thing (v13)
- (3) Honest rebuke is needed and not to be resented (v14-19)
- (4) Honest dedication and effort to allow Christ to live in us is the effective cure for cowardice (v20-21)

(v15-16) Justification by faith: In Romans 3:19-26 - *that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

(v17-18) An easier translation of verse 17 reads, "You say you have been saved by faith in Christ. Well, if you go back to the Law, you are confessing that you are still a sinner needing to be saved and that Christ did not save you. In fact, you are saying that your faith in Christ made you a sinner again, and that makes Christ the minister of sin!" To turn back to the Law denies the work of Christ on the cross."

(v19-20) C.I. Scofield writes, "The Christian life is the outliving of the inliving Christ!" (John 14:15-26)

Another commentator writes, "The counterpart of death with Christ is always resurrection and a new life in Him. The man of faith walks in "newness of life" (Rom. 6:4), in the "likeness of His resurrection" (Rom. 6:5), and "lives unto God" (Rom. 6:11). He "brings forth fruit unto God" (Rom. 7:4), and serves Him in "newness of spirit" (Rom. 7:6). It is vital to grasp the full impact of this wondrous truth. Death to sin is significant only because it makes the new life possible. (Read this verse and pray over it every day this week, put it to memory.)

(v21) "Christ died in vain" a better translation is, "Christ died needlessly." Those who insist they can earn salvation by their own efforts undermine the foundation of Christianity and render unnecessary the death of Christ.

Conclusion: Paul passionately proclaims the power of liberty in **Philippians 3:7-11** - *But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*