

Galatians: No Other Gospel!

The Gospel Life of Freedom Galatians 5:1-6

Introduction

Thus far in our study of Galatians...

We've seen the Gospel Messenger

We've seen the Gospel Message

Now we come to at last the last section of the book of Galatians...the Gospel life.

The Christian Must Stand in Freedom

Galatians 5:1

1. Free from what?

- Romans 6:6-7—We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin.
- Romans 6:23—For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Romans 7:6—But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

"What Christ has done in liberating us, according to Paul's emphasis here, is not so much to set our will free from the bondage of sin as to set our conscience free from the guilt of sin. The Christian freedom he describes is freedom of conscience, freedom from the tyranny of the law, the dreadful struggle to keep the law, with a view to winning the favor of God. It is the freedom of acceptance with God and of access to God through Christ.¹"

2. What does it mean to stand firm?

The Vanity of Circumcision

- Galatians 5:2
- Galatians 5:3
- Galatians 5:4

¹ John Stott, *The Bible Speaks Today: Galatians*, Olivetree Edition



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- 1. Severed from Christ.
- 2. Fallen from Grace.

The Hope of the Gospel

Galatians 5:5

- 1. How we come to believe in the gospel of grace
 - ❖ John 16:8—when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:
 - Titus 3:5-6—he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
 - John 6:63—It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.
 - Ephesians 2:8-9—For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

2. More Stark Contrasts

Galatians 5:6

1. A restatement of the vanity of circumcision

Faith working through love

- Galatians 2:16—we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.
- James 2:14—What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?
- James 2:24—You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

"While it is faith in Christ alone which justifies us before God...we are only justified in our claim to possess genuine, saving faith when our faith causes us to perform works of love."

Closing Applications



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- 1. Stand firm in faith alone
- 2. Remember that justifying faith always performs works of love