

Galatians: Christ Has Set Us Free  
Lesson 10 “Living From Freedom”

I. Introduction and Review - Paul wrote this book to give an revelation of grace and what the true gospel is. He wrote in a very emphatic and dogmatic and sort of in your face style.

A. Paul was writing to churches in Galatia that he founded on his first missionary journey (*Acts 13-14*). These churches were founded in approximately 48 A.D.

1. Paul wrote Galatians about 3 years after he founded these churches to counter the teaching of the Judaizers. The Judaizers had come in and begin to say that these Christians had to continue to believe in Jesus but also live by the Mosaic law to be right with God. Watered down the gospel. Paul called their teaching of mixture a different gospel and said that those that taught it were accursed.
2. The main point of the letter is we are saved by putting faith in God’s grace. We cannot add to what Jesus did for us to get saved, maintain our salvation, and/or to receive any of the blessings of God like healing, prosperity, etc.

B. Last time we met we looked at the last part of *Galatians 4* that talks about 2 Covenants. He compared the Old Covenant to Hagar/Sinai that led to bondage and the New Covenant He compared to Isaac and the Jerusalem that is above which is free. We are called to walk in freedom. Freedom from guilt, shame, and striving.

II. Living From Freedom - Tonight we are going to talk about how to live free since we’ve been made free. Unfortunately, many Christians have been made free and they go back into bondage. What’s worse is they get back into bondage thinking it will maintain their freedom.

A. **Galatians 5:1-6 Christian Liberty**

1. **Verses 1-3** What is the yoke of bondage? Is it sin? No. While sin is a manifestation of bondage, the bondage that Paul is talking about here is law keeping. In my experience 99% of Christians and Pastors don’t teach it this way. They teach the yoke of bondage is sin. This is a problem because the message they teach to get people free actually increases people’s bondage.
2. **Verse 4** Trying to keep the law means we have fallen from grace.
  - a. Estranged means still married, but not living with spouse anymore. These people are still saved, but they have lost the benefits of their salvation. Another word for estranged means **severed** (from the anointing).
  - b. **Galatians 5:6 AMP** for you have lost your grasp on God’s unmerited favor and blessing. **We sever ourselves from the anointing.**
3. **Verse 5** In the spirit we are already righteous. What we wait for is this righteousness to manifest through actions. This happens through our intimacy with Jesus, not our striving.

4. **Verse 6** Faith works by love. When I know how much God loves me it causes my faith to work.

a. Circumcision doesn't avail anything - modern example - tithing. Many Christians have been taught they must tithe to not be cursed. Others have been taught they have to tithe so the rest of their giving is blessed. This is error. We are blessed whether we tithe or not. The reason we tithe is the principle of sowing seed. Our ground can be blessed, but if we don't put seed in our blessed ground, we won't have harvest. **Hebrews 8:7**.

b. Faith working by love doesn't mean we have to walk in love with others to make our faith work. That is the antithesis of what this verse is talking about.

### B. Galatians 5:7-15 Love Fulfills the Law

1. **Verses 7-9** The Judaizers hindered the believers at Galatia. A little leaven leavens the whole lump. This means a little legalism ruins everything. ex: Would you eat a brownie if it had a little bit of poop in it? No, the poop ruins everything.

2. **Verse 10** Paul proclaimed judgement on those who preached mixture and troubled the church. It's not clear what this judgment is, but it is clear there are consequences for our actions. When leaders preach a message of mixture that hurts God's people, He has to deal with them out of love for the body. **James 3:1**.

3. **Verse 11** The word offense is the Greek word *standalon* which means scandal or stumbling block. The cross is offensive to those who won't believe.

4. **Verse 12** Paul is saying he wished the Judaizers would go ahead and castrate themselves if they thought circumcision was the answer. Go all in.

5. **Verses 13-15** We should use our liberty to love and serve Jesus and others, not serve our flesh.

a. When some people hear the grace message, they think they can just do anything they won't. Technically they can, however they are having to step out of their identity as image bearers of Jesus when they allow grace to give them a license to sin.

b. **Verse 14** points us back to the royal law of love. We are to love each other as we love ourselves. When we do this we won't indulge our flesh.

c. **Verse 15** illustrates the practical reality of what happens when we don't do **verses 13-14**. Bad things happen to us when we yield to our flesh. It's not God doing it to us, it's us doing it to ourselves. ex: Taking advantage of someone in business deal.

### III. Conclusion

A. Pray Closing Prayer

B. Call Up Prayer Team

