

March 11, 2012

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Galatians 6:1ff

“Do Good To All Men, Part Two”

- I. The Gospel of Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in the Finished Work of Christ Alone Defended (1:1-2:21)
 - II. The Gospel of Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in the Finished Work of Christ Alone Explained (3:1-4:31)
 - III. The Gospel of Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in the Finished Work of Christ Alone Applied (5:1-6:18)
 - A. Position of Liberty: Stand Fast (5:1-12)
 - B. Practice of Liberty: Love One Another (5:13-15)
 - C. Power for Liberty: Walk in the Spirit (5:16-26)
 - D. Performance in Liberty: Do Good to all Men (6:1-16)**
- Brethren (5:13; 6:1, 18); Circumcision (5:2, 11; 6:12, 13, 15); Persecuted (5:11; 6:12, cp. 6:17); Law fulfilled (5:13-14; 6:2; cp. 6:13-Law not kept); Bite and devour one another (5:15); boastful, challenging, envying one another (5:26); Spirit vs. flesh (5:16-26; 6:1, 8, 18); Walk (5:16 - peripateō, 25 - stoicheō; 6:16 - stoicheō); Good (6:6 - agathos, 9 - kalos, 10 - agathos, 12 - euprosōpeō); Deceives / deceived (6:3, 7); Boastful / boasting / boast (5:26; 6:4, 13, 14); Sow / reap (6:7, 8, 9); Corruption / eternal life (contrasted in 6:8)

1. Bearing the Burden of Grace vs. Law (6:1-5)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Gal. 5:25-26. How easy is it to fall into Legalism or License? Give some examples of how easily it has happened in your life. What are some specific areas of Legalism or License that have crept into the church and become acceptable? How would a proper understanding of Galatians help us see these things more clearly?
2. In the context of Galatians how might someone be “caught” in a trespass? According to chapter 5 what does it mean to be “spiritual”? Why does someone need to be “spiritual” to restore a brother / sister caught in a trespass? To what are we restoring the brother / sister? How should we restore the person?
3. Why do they have to look to themselves so that they will not be tempted? Tempted to what?
4. How might a legalistic person approach a brother that has been caught in a trespass? Is it enough that the legalist means well and really wants to help? What damage is done by the legalist in “helping” someone that is struggling with sin?
5. What “burdens” might Paul be referring to in v. 2? What law of Christ does this fulfill? (see Jn. 13:34; Gal. 5:14; Rom. 13:8, 10; James 2:8)
6. How does v. 3 fit in the context of Galatians? Why would someone think they are something when in reality they are nothing? Where does this kind of deception come from? How might a correction in this attitude help us in restoring a fallen brother / sister?
7. How do Legalism & License lead to boasting in self? What impact does boasting in self have on the Holy Spirit and the fruit He desires to produce in us? According to Paul what is the one and only thing in which he would boast?
8. Instead of comparing oneself to those who have fallen and looking down upon them, what will a spiritual person do? (See v. 4)
9. Why does a proper understanding and application of the gospel lead to persecution? Why would people persecute someone who believes in God’s grace? Why is that offensive to a person who sows to their flesh?
10. Are you spiritual right now? If not, what will you do about it? What impact does preaching the gospel to yourself every day have in this area?
11. Who do you know that needs help overcoming Legalism or License? What will you prayerfully do to help them overcome this problem and learn to walk by the Spirit?