

Galatians 5

Galatians 5.1-4

V 1 – What were the First Century Christians free from? Old Testament

-Pauls' commandment? Keep standing firm

-What does this do to the doctrine of Once Saved Always Saved? It destroys it

V 2 – Paul's statement on circumcision? Don't do it as a part of our faith in Christ

-Why not? It is no longer a religious act (it can be done for health reasons, but not as a part of the Christian faith)

V 3 – If a man is circumcised as a part of the Old Law, what are the consequences? He will have to keep all of the Old Law (which is impossible)

V 4 – Result of going back to Old Law? Fallen from grace

-Grace for everybody? Yes – but we must obey the Bible

-This verse also destroys a major doctrine of the false teachers today, that once we are saved, we cannot ever be lost!

-What else could the Bible possibly say to destroy this false doctrine?

Galatians 5.5-12

V 5 – Why use "we"? In contradistinction to the false teachers in Galatia

V 6 – What counts in Christ? Faith working through love – best verse in Bible on the plan of salvation

V 7 – History of Galatian Christians? They were running well

V 8 – Where did false doctrine not come from? Not from Christ

V 9 – The danger with false doctrine? It spreads

V 10 – What did Paul hope for? Galatians should get straightened out

-Then the false teachers would suffer

V 11 – Some must have accused Paul of preaching that people had to be circumcised

-His answers? "Why am I persecuted?"

-In other words, "If I am preaching that Christian men have to be circumcised, then why are the Judaizing teachers persecuting me?"

V 12 – Paul's wish? That they would cut up themselves = cut themselves off from the children of God

Galatians 5.13-15

V 13 – We have many freedoms under the New Testament

- For example, the freedom to be circumcised or not to be circumcised
- Our attitude?** Leave it as a matter of opinion

V 14 – **Sum of the Old Law?** Serving and loving others

V 15 – **What happens when people in church attack others?** They get destroyed also (those who live by the sword...)

Galatians 5.16-21

V 16 – **Instructions of Paul?** Walk by the Spirit

V 17 – **Difference between flesh and spirit?** Flesh = fights, the Spirit = peace

- We have to choose how we will conduct ourselves

V 18 – **Under Spirit means...?** Not under Old Law

V 19 – Notice: For a detailed description of all the terms in *v 19-23*, see: Barclay, William, *Flesh and Spirit: An Examination of Galatians 5.19-23*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1962 and 1972.

- Go over the deeds of the flesh
 - (sexual) immorality
 - impurity
 - sensuality

V 20 – idolatry

- sorcery
- enmities,
- strife
- jealousy
- outbursts of anger
- disputes
- dissentions
- factions

V 21 – envyings

- drunkenness
- carousings
- things like these
- Explain “and things like these”** Anything that goes along with these is wrong
- Result of doing these things?** Such people are not in the Kingdom of God

Galatians 5.22-26

V 22 – Notice: “fruit” is singular

-It is not Scriptural to refer to the "fruits" of the Spirit (although many people make this mistake

-**Significance?** We do not choose which ones we want to live by – all are to be present

-The "fruit" of the Spirit means that we cannot say, "Well, I have peace in my life, but my self-control is lacking, but that doesn't matter, since I have most of the fruits of the Spirit"

-**Wrong** – we either take them all as one unit, or we are deficient – it is an "all or nothing" lifestyle, according to the Holy Spirit

V 23 – There is no law against these things

-It is like eating healthy food – we can eat as much as we want to eat

V 24 – **If we are Christians...?** We have crucified the old way of life

V 25 – **Emphasis?** To walk – not just in theory, but in practice

V 26 – **Final warning?** Let us have the proper attitude toward our fellow Christians

Revised 2013-01-22