
Mission 119 Ministries

Proclaiming the Word of God for the race that is set before us

GALATIANS: THE GRACE GOSPEL UNDER ATTACK

LESSON 7: GRACE ALIVE

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REVIEW

- **The issue is faith alone in Christ alone**
 - **Paul warns against adding to “faith alone in Christ alone” (Galatians 1:9)**
 - **A perverted gospel is faith in Christ plus anything else (repentance of sins, live a certain way, get baptized)**
 - **Galatians 1:10-24 stresses the divine origin of his gospel**
 - **Galatians 2 stresses that the content of his message has divine sanction**
 - **Galatians 3 stresses the supremacy of faith / grace to Law**
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REVIEW

- **Gal. 3:2** This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? **3** Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?
 - **Gal. 3:24** Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. **25** But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.
 - **Gal. 4:19** My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,
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REVIEW

- **Galatians 4:21-31 develops an allegory from the history of two mothers (Sarah and Hagar) and two sons (Isaac and Ishmael)**
 - **In the story Hagar is a bondswoman and her son is not the child of promise, and she is Mount Sinai**
 - **But Sarah is free, and her son is the child of promise, and she is the heavenly Jerusalem and is free**
 - **Children of the bondswoman NOT heirs**
 - **Children of Sarah born after the Spirit (4:29), heirs (4:30), and free (4:31)**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW

- **Main divisions of Gal. 5 at a high level**
 - **Liberty without the Law (vv. 1-12)**
 - **Liberty without license to sin (vv. 13-25)**
 - **Gal. 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.**
 - **Nothing here about how to become a Christian**
 - **But they should take a stand for liberty and not return to a Law system—why would the free return to bondage**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW

- **Gal. 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.**
 - **Paul says if you you take step 1 and get circumcised**
 - **you give up your liberty in Jesus Christ (“Christ shall profit you nothing”) and**
 - **you place yourself under the entire Law system(“he is a debtor to do the whole law”)**
 - **But you know you are not able to do the whole Law**
 - **You cannot straddle the fence on works and grace**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW

- **Gal. 5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.**
 - **Grace: you are justified at the moment of faith then sanctified after that**
 - **Law: blends justification and sanctification**
 - **B/C if you believe keeping the Law is necessary to be justified (saved) you can't know until you die**
 - **JC is of no effect because you are looking to your works to save you, and in that sense fallen from grace**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW

- **Gal. 5:5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.**
 - **Paul contrasts justification and sanctification under a Law system versus grace**
 - **Grace: “through the Spirit” and “by faith” we “wait for the hope of righteousness”**
 - **Circumcision (metonymy for law keeping) does not accomplish anything concerning sanctification**
 - **Grace: faith working through love**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW

- **Gal. 5:7** Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? **8** This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. **9** A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.
 - **They were off to a great start (“you did run well”) but the Judaizers cut them off or hindered their race**
 - **Their teaching is NOT from God**
 - **KEY PRINCIPLE: “a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump” — as soon as you blend even a minute amount of works for salvation or sanctification you ruin it all**
 - **One little regulation leavens (spoils) your gospel!!**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW

- **Gal. 5:10 I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be. 11 And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased. 12 I would they were even cut off which trouble you.**
 - **v. 10 expresses Paul's optimism for them, and refers to "he" (singular) suggesting a particular false teacher**
 - **Apparently the Judaizers accuse Paul of teaching "circumcision", but that's absurd — if he did then he would have removed the offense of the cross (offensive because it ended the Law and paid its requirements in full)**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE

- **Gal. 5:13** For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use not* liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. **14** For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even in this*; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
 - **Don't give "the flesh" a base of operations in your life by going back to the Law (flesh reliance)**
 - **EVERY JUSTIFICATION / SANCTIFICATION SYSTEM based on works seeks holiness based on the flesh (and fails)**
 - **By love serve one another — HOW? Use our liberty**
 - **We fulfill the righteousness of the Law by love.**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE

- **Gal. 5:15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.**
 - **What happens when everyone is trying to live by the Law system?**
 - **People start “one-upping” each other, get a critical spirit, pride sets in**
 - **Everyone has their standards and rules**
 - **Leads to ruin**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE

- **Gal. 5:16** *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.*
 - **We are to continually “walk” (idiom for LIVE) “in” or “BY THE SPIRIT”, see the syllogism**
 - **IF you live by the Spirit**
 - **THEN you will not fulfill the “lust” (desires) of the flesh**
 - **Desires of flesh and desires of Spirit are oil and water**
 - **IF we are led by the Spirit, we are not under the Law**
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WALK BY THE SPIRIT

- **Romans 6:4** Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk** in newness of life.
 - **Romans 8:4** That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. **5** For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. **6** For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.
 - **2 Cor. 5:7** (For we **walk** by faith, not by sight:)
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WALK BY THE SPIRIT

- **2 Cor. 10:3** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: **4** (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) **5** Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;
 - **Eph. 5:8** For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: **9** (For the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) **10** Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.
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WALK BY THE SPIRIT

- **Eph. 5:18** And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; **19** Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord...
 - **Col. 3:16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
 - **So to walk by the Spirit is to live on the basis of the desires of the Spirit, which is done by faith (with content), namely the Word of God**
 - **This is NOT another Law system, but an inward change by the Spirit using God's Word in our lives**
 - **Rom. 12:2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE

- **Gal. 5:19** Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
 - **If you try to live by the flesh this is what your life will look like**
 - **Cf. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11** (“and such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God”)
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE

- **Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**
 - **Contrasts the works of the flesh with the “fruit” (singular) of the Holy Spirit**
 - **It is one Spirit, and walking in the Spirit produces all of this**
 - **So if you walk by the Spirit you fulfill the righteousness of the Law that they are allegedly seeking by placing themselves under Law again**
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LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE

- **Gal. 5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**
 - **v. 24 - we have been crucified with Christ and so our flesh is basically pre-cross, judged but still with us, so to go back to the law is to go back to the flesh that was crucified (and thus dead)**
 - **v. 25 - Because we LIVE by the Spirit we should carry forward in our Christian walk by the same means which made us alive to begin with**
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SO WHAT

- **Christians must be well-grounded in doctrine (see verse 27) so that false teachers cannot hinder our race**
 - **The mark of people that grasp their liberty in Jesus Christ is NOT license BUT love as they serve one another**
 - **Any rules-keeping system for justification or sanctification depends on a dead flesh whose desires are contrary to God**
 - **Meditate on this matter of walking (living) by the Spirit so that Christ will be formed in you (Gal. 4:19)**
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