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SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Paul's Letter to the
Galatians



**Freedom in Christ
by the Spirit**
(part 1)

Galatians 5:1-26
09/23/2018

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Paul's Letter to the

Galatians



Galatians: The Gospel As It Should Be (part 10)
Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1)

Galatians 5:1-26

09/23/2018



**BITHYNIA &
PONTUS**

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

ASIA

Phrygia

Antioch

Lycaonia

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Pisidia

CILICIA

• Tarsus

LYCIA

PAMPHYLIA

• Antioch

SYRIA

CYPRUS

Mediterranean Sea

Galatians: The Gospel As It Should Be

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Galatians

Christian Liberty

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

² Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing.

Chapter 5

³ And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law.

⁴ You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

1. Biblical, New Covenant Freedom – what is it?

Conceptually, based upon Biblical Principles

It is FREEDOM FROM ... and FREEDOM TO

Freedom from:

a. the Penalty of our sin and sins

i. God's Wrath and Judgment

ii. Eternal Punishment in the Lake of Fire

b. Bondage to sin / the power of sin

c. following the Old Covenant, Mosaic Law of God for Israel (i.e.: performance-based righteousness)

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

1. Biblical, New Covenant Freedom – what is it?

Conceptually, based upon Biblical Principles

It is FREEDOM FROM ... and FREEDOM TO

Freedom to:

- a. Follow Jesus Christ, in Loving-Trust, personally**
- b. Obey Christ's Righteousness (His Righteous ways)**
- c. Be all the God has Created us to be, in Christ**
- d. Love the way God loves us**
- e. Share this Grace, Love and Truth with others**
- f. Know and Follow God's Word in the Holy Spirit**
- g. Bear Fruit for Christ's Name sake**

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

2. We have been called to Freedom in Christ

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. (Gal. 5:1)

Liberty = Freedom (freedom from slavery)

- Set Free from the Slavery to Sin**
- Set Free from the Slavery to Bondage
to Religious Self-Effort (following the Mosaic Law)**

Don't be entangled again – willful act of going back to Slavery and Bondage

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

3. If you seek to “obey the Law”, you must do ALL of it.

Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become **circumcised**, Christ will profit you nothing. ³ And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a **debtor to keep the whole law.** ⁴ You have become **estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.**
(Gal. 5:2-4)

Whoever seeks to be “circumcised” must keep all the Law. The same goes today, those who seek to “obey” the “Mosaic Sabbath Laws” must also keep all the LAW of Moses. Today, they focus on “sabbath” and other things. It is still the HRML.

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

- 4. Those who seek to follow Christ by faith, through the Spirit – have Hope, and much more. (Gal. 5:5-6)**

For we through the Spirit **EAGERLY WAIT for the **HOPE** of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** by **FAITH**. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but **FAITH** working through **LOVE**. (Gal. 5:5-6)**

A Biblical Christian who is already circumcised or one who was never circumcised – that is not what matters – but **OUR Motivation is what matters ... If we are **TRUSTING** in Christ, **Eagerly WAITING** for **HIM**, allowing **HIM** to Give us **HIS Righteousness – Faith Working Through Love ...****

We HAVE what the HRLMs could NEVER have, even NOW.

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

- 4. Those who seek to follow Christ by faith, through the Spirit – have Hope, and much more. (Gal. 5:5-6)**

Therefore, having been JUSTIFIED by faith, we have PEACE with God through our LORD Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have ACCESS by faith into this GRACE in which we stand, and rejoice in HOPE of the GLORY of God. ³ And not only that, but we also GLORY in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces PERSEVERANCE; ⁴ and perseverance, CHARACTER; and character, HOPE. ⁵ Now HOPE does NOT disappoint, because the LOVE of God has been Poured out into our HEARTS by the HOLY SPIRIT who was given to us. (Rom. 5:1-5)

All of this is a Free GIFT from God, in Christ

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

- 5. You might suffer Persecution for standing up for what is right.
(Gal. 5:7-12)**

You ran well. Who HINDERED you from obeying the truth?

⁸ This PERSUASION does NOT come from Him who calls you.

⁹ A little leaven leavens the whole lump. ¹⁰ I have confidence in you, in the LORD, that you will have NO other MIND; but he who troubles you shall BEAR HIS JUDGMENT, whoever he is.

Who Hindered you from obeying the truth? This Persuasion ... this false ideology, this false teaching, this FALSE TEACHER (the leader of that Judaizer Group) ... He/They will face judgment – DON'T Be A Part of suffering that judgment. → REPENT / Think Differently

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

5. You might suffer Persecution for standing up for what is right. (Gal. 5:7-12)

¹¹ And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then THE OFFENSE OF THE CROSS has ceased. ¹² I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off!

At the time, it was getting to be a popular thing, this Judaizer Movement (HRML) false teaching. “You must be ‘circumcised’”, and you must follow the Law of Moses to be saved, etc. You had to tow the line, get in line, not rock the boat, “do as you are told”, follow the Popular Trend, or you might be ostracized, ridiculed, become an outcast, “shut down”, etc.

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

**5. You might suffer Persecution for standing up for what is right.
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The OFFENCE of the CROSS is minimized with “circumcision” and following the Law of Moses – after the New Covenant in the Messiah had come on the scene (Acts 2)

The OFFENCE of the CROSS → you can't earn it, you can't do anything to make up for your sin, you can't change yourself, you can't be good enough, you can't keep your salvation – it is all a GIFT.

That OFFENDS my old sinful, fleshly nature

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

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The OFFENSE of the CROSS →

Nothing has changed ... The Crucifixion, Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus, the Messiah still OFFENDS Sinners and Religious Self-Righteous HRMLs, today.

Persecution arises due to this OFFENSE of the CROSS

If you are NICE and never tell Folks the Gospel, everyone is your friend. If you stand up for God, His Word, His Righteousness, well

Freedom in Christ by the Spirit (part 1) – Gal. 5:1-26

6. Called to Freedom, not to Selfishness (Gal. 5:13-14)

¹³ For you, brethren, have been called to LIBERTY; only DO NOT use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Our LIBERTY – OUR FREEDOM in CHRIST ... is to be used to LOVE God and Others ...

Freedom in Christ can be corrupted by our old sinful fleshly nature and become Bondage, again. We can be tricked into thinking our Freedom in Christ is really something for ourselves ... to fulfill our selves. But, we were Saved to Serve God, in Christ, and others – with God’s Love.