

Paul's Letter to the Galatian Churches – Part 5 (late 48)

Galatians 5

Stand Firm in Your Freedom

- 1 It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.
- 2 Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you.
- 3 And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law.
- 4 You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.
- 5 For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness.
- 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.
- 7 You were running well; who hindered you from obeying the truth?
- 8 This persuasion *did* not *come* from Him who calls you.
- 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*.
- 10 I have confidence in you in the Lord that you will adopt no other view; but the one who is disturbing you will bear his judgment, whoever he is.
- 11 But I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still persecuted? Then the stumbling block of the cross has been abolished.
- 12 I wish that those who are troubling you would even mutilate themselves.

Don't Allow Your Freedom to Become a License for the Flesh

- 13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do* not *turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.
- 14 For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the *statement*, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." [[Lev 19:18](#)]
- 15 But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.
- 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
- 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.
- 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.
- 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,
- 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,
- 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
- 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
- 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.
- 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.