

## Studies in Galatians

### Lesson 10: *Stand firm and stay full*

#### Galatians 5:1-15

1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

2 Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. 3 Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. 4 You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. 5 But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? 8 That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. 9 "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." 10 I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion will pay the penalty, whoever he may be. 11 Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. 12 As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. 14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

## Stand firm in Christian liberty

### ▲ Remember your conversion to Christ

#### ▼ You were called to freedom

Galatians 5:13 You, my brothers, were called to be free.

#### ▼ You were conveyed to freedom

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.

### ▲ Realize the consequences of confidence in circumcision

#### ▼ You'll be enslaved

Galatians 5:1 a yoke of slavery.

#### ▼ You'll be ensnared

Galatians 5:3 Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law.

#### ▼ You'll be estranged

Galatians 5:2 Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. — 4 You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ;

#### ▼ You'll be eternally endangered

Galatians 5:4 you have fallen away from grace.

### ▲ Reject the communicators of this confusion

#### ▼ They have poisoned you people

Galatians 5:7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? 8 That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. 9 "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough."

#### ▼ They will pay the penalty for their perversion

Galatians 5:10 The one who is throwing you into confusion will pay the penalty, whoever he may be.

#### ▼ They have parted with Paul's preaching

Galatians 5:11 Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished.

#### ▼ They have passed the point of Paul's pastoral patience

Galatians 5:12 As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!

### ▲ Return to your confidence in Christ

#### ▼ Faith in Christ results in real righteousness

Galatians 5:5 But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value.

#### ▼ Freedom in Christ requires real resistance

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. — 10 I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view.

## Stay full of Christian love

### ▲ Love is the public evidence of faith

Galatians 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

### ▲ Love is the proper employment of our freedom

Galatians 5:13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. — 15 If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

### ▲ Love is our primary emphasis and focus

Galatians 5:14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." [*—from Leviticus 19:18—*]

1. True religion is living in right relationship with God and with people by loving God and loving people—and that love is produced by an inner work of the Spirit.
2. The cross is offensive to our pride because we must acknowledge that our own works, whether of the law or of any other religious efforts, are not enough.
3. Christ and his work are exceedingly precious and inexpressibly effectual to us—may we hold to Christ fiercely and stand in his grace confidently and gratefully.

# The Christian's Freedom in Romans

## Free from sin's status

Romans 5:9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

## Free from sin's shortfall

Romans 8:4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

## Free from sin's sentence

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Free from sin's shackles

Romans 6:14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

## Free from sin's shame

Romans 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

## Free from sin's shouts

Romans 8:34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

