

Galatians, Free in Grace

(11) The Exhortation of Grace

Falling from Grace!...5:1-6

What is a *specific* reason for our salvation? vs.1a Jn.8:31-38; Rom.8:15

It is for freedom, specifically from a burden/yoke of slavery (to the Law, vs.2).

What is the admonition in conclusion of his arguments of chapter 1-4? vs.1b 1Cor.16:13

Stand firm (in your freedom). Do not allow yourself to be in slavery again!

What is Paul's emphatic point in vs.2? note Acts 16:1-3

Being circumcised (for spiritual value) replaces Christ's value to you! Works vs. Faith...

What were the Judaizers obviously advocating for the new gentile believers?

They must be circumcised and thus submit to the slavery of the Law for "real" salvation.

What does Paul clearly emphasize to those contemplating this action? vs.3

No cafeteria! Take any part of the Law, must take it ALL. Either Law OR Faith, not both

What is the absolutely clear underlying motive for the circumcision/law? vs.4a

These were trying to be (self) justified by law keeping. Declaring Christ insufficient...

What is the result of such error? vs.4b

True believers who try to add self justification by law have FALLEN from Grace!

What is another way to state this truth? Rom.10:1-4

Zeal, motive, is not good enough! Only God's righteousness thru Christ is accepted.

What is the summary take-away from these verses?

You can't MIX Law with Grace! It's not deeper obedience. It's being cut-off from Christ.

What is the believer's hope 'through the Spirit'? vs.5 Rom.8:22-25; 1Jn.3:2-3

By faith we eagerly wait for the (full) righteousness of Christ. To be like Him...

And what is the contrast of verse 6? 5:13-14

In Christ (true believers), circumcision/not is nothing. Only faith expressed through love!

Application today

What is our response to those who would advocate some law/ceremony to be "obedient"?

There is no higher obedience than living by faith! Heart obedience by the Spirit, is it.

What Scripture could you use to support this? Hab.2:4; Rom.1:17; Gal.3:11; Heb.10:38; Gal...

The just shall live (life) by faith. Empowered by the Spirit of God, not the flesh. Rom.8:1-4

What are some of the things a believer forfeits when falling from grace? 5:1; Rom.8:6;

Exchange God's freedom for man's slavery. No "life", no peace. The just shall live!