

## GALATIANS 5:1-4

A. Galatians 5:1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

1. [Stand fast therefore] Paul begins his personal challenge to the Galatians. He previously told them to expel - kick **out** the law, Hagar, Ishmael, flesh, and the performance system. Instead, they were to **em**brace the grace system - Sarah, Abraham, promise, Isaac, and faith...a free gift system.

\*The choice for their life was legalism or **lib**erty (freedom).

2. [in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free,]

a. Paul says our practice, our lifestyle, our behavior, our everyday living coincides with what Christ provided for us in Him. Our **new** position is in grace. Thus, we are not to **re**treat, to be under the legalistic pressures from which Christ has made us free, especially the law's demands with its curse.

Galatians 3:13, 23-25 - Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree: Gal. 3:23 - But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Gal. 3:24 - Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. Gal. 3:25 - But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Romans 6:14 - For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

b. This new freedom in Christ is not a **lic**ense to sin, but to help us fulfill His will in our lives.

(1) It is free from having to **sin**.

Romans 6:18 - Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

(2) It is free from the law's **bon**dage.

Romans 8:2 - Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death

(3) It is free from **self**-bondage.

Romans 6:11-12 - Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:12 - Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

### POEM

"Free from the law, O happy condition,  
Jesus both bled, and there is remission;  
Cursed by the law, and bruised by the fall,  
Grace hath redeemed us, once for all."

\*\*Grace **moves** in us to live godly:

Titus 2:11-14 - For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Titus 2:12 - Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Titus 2:13 - Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Titus 2:14 - Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

3. [and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.]

a. Isn't it amazing, even though one is free in Christ, they **still** will go to all lengths to bring legalism back into their lives?

\*\*They **still** think they have to do something, some kind of religious works, to satisfy themselves!

b. As a result of that, they miss out on the liberty we have in Christ because of what He has accomplished on our behalf.

Colossians 2:13-14, 20-22 - And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Col. 2:14 - Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; Col. 2:20 - Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, Col. 2:21 - (Touch not; taste not; handle not; Col. 2:22 - Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?

\*\*As Christ hung on the cross, crucified for **all** the world's sins, the law was crucified with Him. And now it is a dead system. But what does man do? Man is constantly pulling it out of the **grave!**

Romans 7:5-6 - For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. Romans 7:6 - But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not *in* the oldness of the letter.

c. Previously, the Galatians had been in bondage to idolatry and then the law!

Galatians 4:8-9 - Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. Gal. 4:9 - But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?

\*\*So Paul here tells them, "**Do** not let the Judaizers **trap** you with their legalism. Do not allow them to make you a religious victim. Do not fear grace or liberty and stop letting others make unbiblical **decisions** for you!"

\*What should our attitude be?

II Timothy 2:24-26 - And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, II Tim. 2:25 - In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; II Tim. 2:26 - And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

B. Galatians 5:2 - Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.

1. [Behold, I Paul say unto you,] Paul here is trying to get their attention. He is saying, "Hey, remember who I am? Yes, I am an Apostle with God's authority; but also I am the one who knew the law inside out as a **Phar**isee, who **tr**ied keeping the law for righteousness.

Philippians 3:4-9 - Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: Php. 3:5 - Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Php. 3:6 - Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. Php. 3:7 - But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Php. 3:8 - Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ, Php. 3:9 - And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

2. [that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.] Paul is not only talking about their salvation, their justified position in Christ. He is also talking about their everyday **ex**perience of a believer's **life**. If they would go back under the law, they would not get the benefits of Christ's freedom. They would **lose** the ministry of the Holy Spirit from working in their lives.

Galatians 5:16-17 - *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Gal. 5:17 - 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.

C. Galatians 5:3 - For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

1. Paul states that if they were going to use the legalistic rite of circumcision as part of their salvation or sanctification, **plus** Paul's gospel, they have the duty - obligation to keep **all** the law!

Galatians 3:10 - For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

James 2:10 - For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

2. Most Judaizers, like most legalists, choose which laws - rules they **want** to keep, while leaving the rest. That is called **hypo**crisy!

**\*\*Remember, it is not believing in Christ plus a few other things. That is saying Christ's work still is not **en**ough! This upsets God after all He has done for man in providing His Son's D.B.R.!**

3. In truth, mixing law with grace is a dispensational problem. Too many believers and lost people keep going to areas of the Bible for information that was not put there for **them**!
  - a. If you keep going **back** or **forward** under Israel's program, you will **not** find yourself out **from** beneath the law's system.
  - b. You would be under a works system, Replacement Theology, Messianic Covenant, or Mosaic Covenant's principles of **per**formance.

\* | Remember, Paul is our Apostle and his teachings are to be followed if you want correct -  
\* | **bi**blical blessings and fruit.

D. Galatians 5:4 - Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

1. [Christ is become of no effect unto you,]

a. Christ's work (DBR), its value - importance, is being rendered **in**operative or of little use by the way you are living under legalism. You are forfeiting God's **true** moving in your life without Christ and grace.

b. If you are leaning toward and believe that works are part of your salvation, then there was **no** need for Christ's work!

\*When one lives their life in the flesh, trusting their works, they shut or **limit** God's work of grace from being activated.

2. [whosoever of you are justified by the law;]

a. Romans 3:23-24, 26 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 3:24 - Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Romans 3:26 -To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

\*It says [believeth in Jesus]. There is no legalism - works tied to our salvation. It is **pure** grace!

b. Also, whether keeping the law for salvation or sanctification, the legalistic system is an ongoing **process** - obligation! This means no assurance now or ever, because there is always something **more** to do. It is never over in trying to be accepted by God under its system.

3. [ye are fallen from grace.]

a. This is a favorite verse - phrase used by many to show you can **lose** your salvation. Some say one is saved by grace, but they have to **continue** believing or working to keep salvation.

b. Some think they have been in grace, but have **fallen out of grace**. That is impossible and that is **conditional** salvation.

\*Paul is saying, "If you are to put all these attachments and amendments to the gospel, then you have literally **turned** your back on the grace gospel."

Galatians 1:6-7 - I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Gal. 1:7 - Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

c. In the area of growth, when saved, you place yourself under the law - legalism; you **remove** yourself from the sphere of grace. This also shuts down your growth, since you would not grow unless it is according to **truth**. You would also lose grace for your daily living!

d. There are two main arguments against **once** saved, always saved.

(1) Teaching once saved, always saved, is giving one a **license to sin**. They could then do **whatever they want and still be forgiven**.

Answer: Paul anticipated people saying this so he wrote:

(a) Romans 5:20 - Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

\*You cannot out-sin the grace of God.

- (b) Romans 5:21 - That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

\*Grace operates in **holi**ness given to us by Christ.

- (c) Romans 6:1-2 - What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? Romans 6:2 - God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

\*Grace is **never** a license to sin, but just the opposite. Grace teaches or helps us to have the **desire** to deny ungodly and worldly lusts. The cross put away sin and gave us **new** life to live godly.

- (2) Say, you are safe and secure as long as you believe. They say you are safe and secure as long as you hear truth, **bel**ieve truth, and follow truth. But what happens if you quit believing? You **fall** from grace!

Answer: When the Bible says belief or unbelief, it is referring not just to believing, but receiving Christ as your Savior. It is a **one** time action!

\*Before we were saved, or after we were saved, we have what we have because of what Christ did and **accomplished**. It is **never** based upon our performance.

II Timothy 2:13 - If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

Romans 8:29-30 - For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Romans 8:30 - Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.