

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: May 17, 2020

Spring Quarter: "Faith and Freedom" (Galatians)

"Having defended both his authority as an apostle (chs. 1-2) and the doctrine of justification by faith (chs. 3-4), Paul turned to defend the life of Christian freedom (chs. 5-6). Would the apostle's teaching lead the Galatians into lawlessness or into godliness? The Christian life is described as a life apart from Law, a life apart from license, a life according to the Spirit, and a life of service."

## A LIFE OF SERVICE (6:1-10)

### 1. Reciprocal Christian Relationships (5:26-6:5)

He tells us how, if we're walking by the Spirit, we shall & shall not behave toward each other.

#### A. How Christians **should NOT** treat each other (5:26)

Our conduct to others is determined by our opinion of ourselves! "Let us not become conceited (AV vainglory)." An opinion of ourselves that is empty, vain or false. The result is that our relationships with others become poisoned.

##### 1) First, we **provoke** one another (result of *superiority*)

Incorrect attitude: "I'm better than you and I'll prove it."

##### 2) Second, we **envy** one another (result of *inferiority*)

Incorrect attitude: "You're better than me and I resent it."

#### B. How Christians **should** treat each other (6:2-5)

##### 1) "Carry each other's burdens"

A great ministry; one that ev'ry Christian should & can do. Its the natural cons. of walking by the Spirit. It fulfills the law of Christ.

##### 2) And "fulfill the law of Christ"

The 'law of Christ' is to 'love one another as He loves us'. That was the new commandment that He gave (Jn. 13:34; 15:12).

##### 3) Don't think of yourself as something, when you're nothing.

Is this an exaggeration? No! The HS has opened our eyes to see ourselves as we are, rebels who deserve nothing but destruction.

##### 4) Each should "test his own work" and "bear his own load."

Instead of scrutinizing our neighbor and comparing ourselves with him, we are to test our "own work." That is, we are responsible to God for our work & must give an acc't of it to Him one day ("bear our own load"). Each of us before the Judgment Seat of Christ.

C. One specific example of burden-bearing (6:1)

**THEOLOGY:**

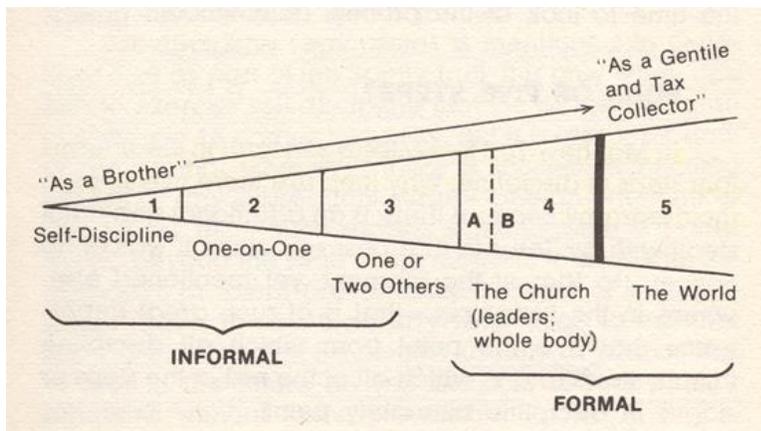
- 1) Sin's a reality in ev'ry Christian life (1 Jn. 1:8, 10; Eph. 6:11, 13)
- 2) Sin affects the believer himself, God, and others:
  - A. Sin affects the believer himself
  - B. Sin in a believer affects God (1 Cor. 6:16-17; Eph. 4:30)
  - C. Sin in a believer affects others, both believers & unbelievers
- 3) The most important pursuit for all Christians, individually & corporately, is holiness.

**PRACTICAL:**

"If someone is **caught** in a sin" ... but compare "**overtaken** in a fault" (KJV; CSB) or "**overcome** by some sin" (NLT).

- 1) What to do: 'restore' or 'set him back on the right path' JBP
- 2) Who is to do it:

Any believer, at any point in his growth tow. Christlikeness, can be a spiritual believer who helps a sinful believer who has fallen to the flesh.
- 3) How it should be done: "gently"
  - Gentleness is characteristic of true spirituality (5:23)
  - It is born of a sense of our own weakness & proneness to sin
  - Face to face, privately, with to the goal to "win" or "gain" him



2. Sowing and Reaping (6:6-10)