

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: May 31, 2020

Spring Quarter: "Faith and Freedom" (Galatians)

PAUL'S _____ (6:11)

Paul has now reached the end of his letter. So far, he has been dictating to an **amanuensis** (transcriber; scribe; recorder; secretary), but now, as his custom was, he takes the pen from his secretary's hand, to add a personal postscript.

1. Why did Paul write this paragraph?

The Holy Spirit inspired him to add these closing words to give one more contrast between the legalists and the Spirit-led Christians, to show that the Spirit-led believer lives for the glory of God, not the praise of man.

2. Why did he use such large letters?

Most likely for emphasis: "DON'T MISS THIS!"

PAUL'S _____ (6:12-13)

1. They are _____ (12a, 13b)

2. They are _____ (12b)

Why is "the message of the cross" so offensive (cp. Gal. 5:11)?

A. It offends our _____

B. It offends our _____

C. It offends our _____

3. They are _____ (13)

PAUL'S _____ (6:14-16)

1. Judaizers gloried in the flesh; Paul glorified in the Savior. Why?

A. Paul knew the PERSON of the cross.

B. Paul knew the POWER of the cross.

2. "Even to the Israel of God" (NIV) or "and upon the Israel of God."

While some believe that "Israel of God" is the church, the evidence does not support such a conclusion.

- A. The repetition of the preposition ("upon" or "to") indicates two groups are in view.
- B. All 65 other occurrences of the term "Israel" in the NT refer to Jews. It would be strange for Paul to use "Israel" here to mean *Gentile Christians*.
- C. Paul elsewhere referred to two kinds of Israelites — believing Jews & unbelieving Jews (Rom. 9:6). Just in case someone tho't Paul was anti-Semitic, he demonstrated by means of this benediction his deep love & concern for true Israel, that is, Jews who had come to Christ.

PAUL'S _____ (6:17-18)

- 1. Paul's calling as an apostle and the message he preached had been challenged by the Judaizers.
 - A. He asked for an end to such "trouble."
 - B. He offered as final proof to his critics "the marks of Jesus" on his "body." He was not a people-pleaser (cp. Gal. 1:10).
For "scars" see 1 Cor. 4:11; 2 Cor. 4:10-11; 6:5, 9; 11:24-25.
- 2. Paul's final word of benediction is noteworthy.
 - A. He expressed his heartfelt desire that "the grace of God" would be their abiding portion (cp. 1:3).
 - B. He reminded them of his love for them, calling them "brothers."