

Galatians 6.1-10

NOW we STEP into 6th and FINAL Chapter of Letter of FREEDOM in JESUS!
Paul is RUNNING OUT of PARCHMENT – Final Words – Still MUCH to Say!

Paul does NOT Describe FREEDOM as PERSONAL Experience

God's DECREE: you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation

After SALVATION of Slaves, To SINAI: Daughters & Sons given LAW of God
SET OUT on Journey to PROMISED LAND // We're ON Such a Journey NOW

SAVIOR has SECURED PLACE for US > HEAVEN in our HOMELAND

Israel on their JOURNEY > GRUMBLED, SOME FELL into Various SINS

1. Stickiness of Sin

a. A Brother v. 1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression...

Message to BELIEVERS: WARNING – REAL Brothers can GET CAUGHT

“Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery....” John 8.4

SAME WORD used to Describe Woman dragged before JESUS

NOT JUST Sensational things like we BRAG about on FACEBOOK

The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast.

Proverbs 5.22

An evil man is snared by his own sin, but a righteous one can sing and be glad.

Proverbs 29.6

Temptation can SNEAK up on You – CATCH you OFF GUARD – Least Expect

Vs. NOT referring to DELIBERATE, PLANNED, PRE-MEDITATED Sin

Even FRUIT bearing SAINTS can be CAUGHT Up in WORKS of the FLESH

PERHAPS Paul is LOOKING forward to REPENTANCE thru this LETTER

LEGALISTIC Ones in Galatia CONVINCED by Clear Arguments & Logic

When TURN back to FAITH Alone, GOSPEL Alone > Make ROOM for Them

Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?”
Genesis 4.9

ANSWER is YES! – If God is our Father – We’re BROTHERS & SISTERS

Run unto him, and reaching out your hand, raise him up again, comfort him with sweet words, and embrace him with motherly arms. Martin Luther

b. The Brethren v. 1 Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

Paul REMINDS the CORRECTORS that they’re MORALLY VULNERABLE

- Focusing on CERTAIN Sin can AROUSE your APPETITE for THAT Sin
- Focusing OTHER’S SINS Can make us MINIMIZE Severity of Our Own
- Devil will seek to WEAKEN Testimony of Correctors
(Some who RAIL Against ADULTERY are Living in it Themselves!!)
- When we Criticize we tend toward Self-Righteousness and Hypocrisy
- We find it EASIER to CONDEMN than to RESTORE & FORGIVE Others

If we obeyed this apostolic instruction as we should, much unkind gossip would be avoided, more serious backsliding prevented, the good of the church advanced, and the name of Christ glorified.
John Stott

2. Spirit-filled Restoring

I say, walk by the Spirit Galatians 5.16

the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh Galatians 5.17

But the fruit of the Spirit is...gentleness Galatians 5.22,23

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Galatians 5.25

...spiritual life flows from the third person of the Trinity...The Holy Spirit does not produce this fruit for our private enjoyment...Spiritual life is meant to be shared. It is less like a fruit tree hidden away somewhere in a secret garden, and more like one that grows in a public park.
Philip Ryken

v. 1 ...you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness

James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat *mending the nets*
 Mark 1.19

RESTORE = ‘return to its former condition’

Word used in MEDICINE – Setting BROKEN Bone / or DISLOCATED Joint

Some RESTORERS CRUSH More Bones than they CURE!!

RESTORATION: Sensitivity to Sinner who is Caught & Sinner doing Correcting

“one in the woodpile does not laugh at one in the fire” Kamba in Kenya

Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?
 Matthew 7.3

4 GOSPELS NOT Yet Written: Perhaps Paul taught Restoration PLAN of Jesus

Jesus: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”
 Matthew 18.15-17

3. Standard of the Savior

Paul’s MESSAGE of Freedom is NOT a call to LAWLESSNESS or ANARCHY
 v. 1 caught in any transgression...MUST be DEFINED Law Code to Transgress
 Call to UNDERSTAND TRUE PURPOSE of the Law

REFORMERS – Taught there were THREE USES of the LAW

1. SPIRITUAL – Primary PURPOSE is to Lead us to Faith in Jesus
2. POLITICAL – Moral Code of Many States based on God’s Commandments
3. HEARTS – Written on HEART of Believer by HOLY SPIRIT

LAW does not LIBERATE SLAVES > Tells Sons how to Enjoy their LIBERTY
 Very GOSPEL that Breaks our Chains > CORDS of Love, BINDS us to Service
 Gospel that LIBERATES from LEGALISM – OBLIGATES us to HOLINESS

v. 2 Bear one another's burdens, *and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

LAW of Moses – WRONGLY Applied by False Teachers in Galatia > BURDEN

LAW of Christ: In Harmony w/ RIGHT Application of MOSES, LIFTS Burdens

The whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Galatians 5.14

FATHER asked to RUN KIDS Soccer PRACTICE – NO PROBLEM

COACH dropped off BAG of BALLS > Met Kids at PARK

BALLS Out > Soon CHAOS, FIGHTING, CRYING, CONFUSION, ARGUING

Something ELSE in Bag of BALLS > ORANGE PLASTIC CONES

MARKED the Field > CLEAR Boundaries > ALL SEE what is IN & OUT!

CLEAR Boundaries brought PEACE, HARMONY, ORDER - Kids had FUN!

Christians NOT STIFLED by Scripture but SET FREE by its BOUNDARIES

TODAY RELATIVISM is Prevalent – NO Boundaries, No Truth, No Real FUN!

No TRUTH – No BOUNDARIES – No SHAME – No FEAR OF GOD

Jesus: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.” John 13.34

Jesus SUPER-SIZES Law of Moses > Jesus LOVES WITHOUT LIMIT

Jesus Loves w/ RADICAL, SELF-GIVING, UNCALCULATING ABANDON!

LOOK at JESUS HANGING on Cross to Set you FREE > LOVE like THAT!

You are NEVER MORE like CHRIST than when you BEAR Another’s Burdens

The PRIMARY MISSION of Jesus was to BEAR the Burden of His PEOPLE

4. Stupidity of Self-Deception

MAYBE Bearing someone ELSE’S Burdens is BENEATH your DIGNITY

Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Galatians 5.26

Our CONDUCT toward OTHERS is Governed by our OPINION of OURSELVES

Muhammed ALI Heavyweight Boxing Champion of World > Airplane Flight

Stewardess > Please Buckle Seatbelt Ali > Superman don't Need No Seatbelt!

Stewardess > Superman Don't Need No Airplane! Buckle Up!

MIGHTY God Came to SLAVES in Egypt > PROMISE of FREEDOM, Liberty

Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.'" But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go." Exodus 5.1,2

I am PHAROAH – Sovereign OVER ALL of MIGHTY Egypt

Our Nation Drinks from NILE RIVER

Our Land thrives Under the SHINING SUN

My SON will continue my GREAT DYNASTY

My Dominion extends BEYOND the RED SEA

GOD so DETERMINED to Accomplish FREEDOM of SONS from Slavery

HE will STOP at NOTHING: Pharaoh's HEART gets HARDER

God's Judgment gets HEAVIER > Pharaoh will see HE is NOTHING

v. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

NOTHING! Nothing! How DARE you Say NOTHING!

I am in Master's Program – I am a University Professor – I pull down Big Bucks!

I have iPhone... Well really a Chinese knock-off...but it looks like an iPhone!

I have 427 FACEBOOK Friends....and I just SIGNED-UP Recently!

Our Nation Drinks from NILE RIVER – God turns it into BLOOD

Our Land thrives Under SHINING SUN – God covered Egypt in DARKNESS

My SON continue my GREAT DYNASTY – God takes LIFE of all FIRSTBorn

My Dominion extends BEYOND the RED SEA– Pharaoh DROWNS in Red Sea

v. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor.

Paul NOT Saying BOASTING is ALWAYS BAD – v. 14 Boast in the CROSS!

Paul exhorts us to have SOMETHING to WORTH BOASTING About

Jesus: “apart from me you can do nothing” John 15.5

TRUE for Pharaoh: NOT Know God, Not NEED God – Could do Nothing

True for ANY So-Called Brother – who BOASTS in Themselves, Their Strength

TRUE for one who WILL NOT bother to BEAR the BURDENS of OTHERS

Not my CALLING – Not my GIFTING – No TIME – Call ELDERS & Deacons!

HELPLESS Slaves before Salvation/ POWERLESS Sinners w/out Holy SPIRIT

...we are nothing. Is this an exaggeration? Not when the Holy Spirit has opened our eyes to see ourselves as we are, rebels against the God who made us in His image, deserving nothing at His hand but destruction. When we realize and remember this, we shall not compare ourselves favorably with other people, nor shall we decline to serve them or bear their burdens. John Stott

5. Discernment in Serving

v. 2 Bear one another's burdens...

ASSUMPTION behind the COMMAND > EVERYONE has BURDENS

God NOT Expect us to CARRY them ALONE > Independence NOT Impressive

Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you Psalm 55.22

...casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you 1 Peter 5.7

ONE of God's BURDEN-BEARING Tools is YOU & ME, Our Love & Support

For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus 2 Corinthians 7.5,6

God's COMFORT came from Faithful COMPANION in the GOSPEL
If PAUL Needed People to Bear his Burdens > SO DO WE! Small Groups??!

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. Acts 4.32

NO Contradiction btwn vs. 2 & 5:v.2 Help CARRY One Another's BOULDERS
SOME things WAY to BIG for us to HANDLE by OURSELVES

We would love to see you and visit...I also need to tell you of something that has happened that has had a major impact on our lives. I don't believe that I have told you that Marilea lost the sight in her left eye in July 2011. She had lost the sight in her right eye in 2000 and had adapted so well to being 'one-eyed' that few people realized that she could not see out of the right eye. The loss of sight in the left eye has left her legally blind...Needless to say, this has changed our lives considerably. Because she cannot see, she does not like to be left alone for very long, and so we do everything together, which has changed our lives very much...Anyway, with the help of talking clocks and watches, an image magnifier (CCTV) talking timers, large number pad phones, and numerous other helpful devices, she is managing to get along to some degree. She does very well here in our home, but I (or someone else) need to be nearby to help her outside of the home. Marilea loved to read and so now we are using 'talking books' (there are an amazing number of books available in this format) or I read to her etc. etc. Lots of love from both of us, Harlan and Marilea

v. 5 For each will have to bear his own load. > **Carry you own BACKPACK**
Sometimes we should SHOUT for HELP, Sometimes we should SUCK IT UP!
We Need COMMUNITY in the Journey – Know Ourselves, E/Other, Real Needs
Thank God for ZGC Deacons trying to GRAPPLE w/ Best Ways to Meet Needs
SOMETIMES Sincere Helping can REALLY HURT > Stifle Maturing Process

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. Romans 12.3

6. Supporting Servants of the Word

GREAT News of FREEDOM must be MADE KNOWN thru MESSENGERS
OT – PROPHETS / NT – APOSTLES / Church – PREACHERS & TEACHERS

v. 6 One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches.

PREACHERS & TEACHERS gotta EAT, HAIR STYLED, Drive MERCEDES!

for the laborer deserves his wages

Luke 10.7

Instructors must not suffer because of the time they spend teaching. Samuel Ngewa

Is PAUL Making VEILED Reference to Himself? – He NEEDED to Eat too!

If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? 1 Corinthians 9.11

Or were the Galatian TEACHERS being BOYCOTTED and STARVED OUT?

Even Today churches tell Pastors – You Preach THAT we STOP PAYING!

Maybe the LEGALISTS got People to Stop Paying the Preachers of LIBERTY

ZGC here to REACH Needy People > DECLARE FREEDOM in Jesus Christ!

NO Way to CLEARLY Understand without WORDS of SCRIPTURE

MORE Clearly UNDERSTAND when SEE Scripture LIVED OUT

Better Grasp that Jesus Came to BEAR their BURDENS when you Show Them

Countless PRACTICAL Ways > Show People how to Ride Subway, Use Skype

Take them to Doctor, Best Street Food, Be Listening Ear, Bring them to Church

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
Matthew 11.28,29

Jesus – Nailed to the Cross – Took Greatest BURDEN of our SOULS

ROSE from DEATH – So we can be BORN HIS WAY – Find Rest for SOULS

Galatians 6.¹Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵For each will have to bear his own load. ⁶One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Corporate Responsibility	Individual Accountability
6.1a correct a sinning Christian	6.1b look to yourself (you singular)
6.2 to bear one another's burdens	6.3-5 test your work, bear your own load
6.6 support those who teach	6.7-8 how you sow, you will reap
6.9,10 do good to all, especially believers	

Galatians 6

6.1-5 Bearing Burdens

Legalist is not interested in this / He only adds to people's burdens - Acts 15.10

Nothing reveals ugliness of legalism more than way they treat sinners - John 8

LEGALISTS DO NOT NEED FACTS - THEY ONLY NEED RUMOR & SUSPICION

A CONTRAST IN AIM

Spiritual man - would restore a brother in love / Legalist - expose and humiliate

“restore” def. mend as a torn net, set as a broken bone / 5.13,22 “love”

Jesus was severely criticized for having such love - Mark 2.13-17 // Luke 18.9-14

A CONTRAST IN ATTITUDES

Spiritual man - has gentleness and love / Legalist - pride and condemnation

Legalist will not “watch himself” - thinks he could never fall into such a sin
1 Corinth 10.12 / Matthew 7.3-5

Spiritual man applies “the law of love” - 5.13

Spiritual man wants to “win” or “restore” a soul / Legalist does not care for them

Spiritual man - tries to respect another’s weakness / Legalist - makes self look good at the expense of another’s weakness 6.13 “may boast about your weakness”

Burdens? v. 2 “heavy burden” / v. 5 “soldiers pack”

If you have a problem you may get other’s help, but they do not take your responsibility

6.6-10 Sharing Blessings

6.6 Precept - Teacher shares the word // Members share their material blessings

Paul was often willing to teach “at his own expense” 2 Cor 11.20, 1 Thess 2.

But he taught that believers were responsible to care for the pastor’s needs
1 Cor 9.11,14 // Luke 10.7 // (and missionaries Phil 4.10-19)

6.7,8 Principle -Wider Application - Givers will get a greater blessing

Money sown to the flesh will bring a harvest of corruption //

to the Spirit will bring life

6.9 Promise - We will reap a harvest, if we do not give up

6.10 “as we have opportunity” - do not think you can save the world

“to all men” - Matt 5.16, Luke 10.25-37 “Samaritan is even our neighbor”

“especially believers” - a matter of balance, pray for realism 1 Tim 5.8