

Galatians 6

Galatians 6:8 –18

All is being done to wear down the saints so that there is little enthusiasm and strength left to fulfill God's will in his life. The church has allowed itself to be encumbered with the cares of this life and it has not walked in the power of the Holy Spirit of God, It is the matter of learning, praying and participating that will have the fruit of the Spirit evidenced. It is not that the future is uncertain for the believer as his victorious entrance into the Kingdom of God sure. Afflictions and heart aches will hound him all the days on the Calvary Road. Opportunities to prove our relationship with Christ will be revealed in our devotion and service. What we are and do speaks louder than what we say. It is possible to be weary in the work, but may we never be weary of the work. All this is not to feel good but to do good. Emotion is not necessarily devotion. Paul's last great burst of concern is to correct the motivation of the church.

In this letter Paul has addressed the topics of law and grace, the flesh and the Spirit, sowing to the flesh or the spirit, the difference between circumcision and Christ and glorying in the flesh or the spirit. Sadly, there were "scalp hunters" in the church (6: 13). Boasting of assumed success in winning "converts" was a great motivator revealing the self life. In a recent call from British Columbia a brother shared the fact that the church is dropping the hard message of repentance for "feeling good." The solution to all the above problems, which reveals ignorance or defiance of the Word of God, would be demand that we give credence to the Word of God. Sadly pride in keeping the law and, thereby avoiding the cross reveals insincerity (v.13). We now have two camps; those justified by the blood of Christ and those who are seeking justification through the keeping of the law. It has been well said that works flatter and grace flattens. Only as we are conquered by the cross will there be spiritual life. And as Christ's work on the cross is rejected, so is His message, which bears the sword against the believers who have seen more martyrdoms in our age than all the ages here to for. The zeal of persecution is because of the fear of the truth. The cross will always be an offence. The saints will always have to boast in the cross, which is their strength, hope and joy (V.14).

On that cross, Jesus hung in innocence and shame, and all who embrace the new life that this brings will walk in peace and exercise mercy while being persecuted (V.16). There is no room for any other doctrine, which eliminates ecumenical ties (V.17). The evidence of a follower of Christ is rejection by the world. Each one will have to decide if he will embrace the marks of the crucified one. It is time for the real Christian to stand up and “**- come out from among them and be ye separate smith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you**”. II Corinthians 6:17.

Prayer: Dear Lord, when I look at the cross and see the cost for our salvation, I plead with thee to rise up within me and live thy life through me by the power of the Holy Spirit so that I will be true to thee in identification with thy suffering and in this manner testify to this world thy grace revealed. Amen

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