

# Galatians

## Chapter 6, Part 1

- I. Introduction
  - a. The Galatian saints had confused the message of the Gospel
    - i. One of the most wonderful truths of Christ's work for His own is that He saved us from the curse of the Law
      - 1. We are saved apart from the Law
      - 2. We are sanctified apart from the Law
  - b. The previous chapter showed that we are not free to live a life of sin because we are free from the Law
    - i. In fact, our instruction now is to follow the leadership of the Spirit
      - 1. This gives the believer greater instruction in following the Lord
        - a. And yet, there is liberty – freedom
  - c. Today's lesson continues our instruction on how to live apart from the Law
    - i. The previous lesson instructed us on how to follow the leadership of the Spirit rather than the flesh
    - ii. Today's lesson tells us how to deal with a brother who errs
- II. Commentary
  - a. **Verses 1-5**
    - i. Notice, despite their error, Paul still refers to them as "*Brethren*"
      - 1. This is an example for us
        - a. The tendency today is to completely break all fellowship when disagreements are found
          - i. Paul still considered these churches "*brethren*"
    - ii. The church is to seek to restore those that err
      - 1. Notice, this is one that is "*overtaken in any trespass*"
        - a. The Greek word here translated "*overtaken*" can mean "caught" or "surprised"
          - i. It could be that this man is caught in the act of whatever he is guilty of
          - ii. It could also be that this is not necessarily a sin he planned on, but one he was surprised by
      - 2. Those that are "spiritual" are to restore this one
        - a. It would be dangerous to send a church member to visit him that is not himself walking close to the Lord
          - i. These brethren should possess a Christlike attitude and have a good reputation
        - b. These should have a "gentle" disposition
          - i. The church would err in sending a boisterous, outspoken person that doesn't speak with grace
        - c. These should be cautious that they do not fall into the same sin as the one they are correcting
          - i. It's error to think there is any sin that we are not capable of committing because we think we are strong
    - iii. Church members must be the burdens of other church members
      - 1. John plainly says, "*By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*"

*But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" (1 John 3:16-17)*

2. This is how we fulfill *"the law of Christ"*
  - a. This is not to be confused with the Law of Moses
    - i. Jesus said, *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another"* (John 13:34-35)
      1. Jesus' teaching was based on our love for others
        - a. Not our fear of breaking the Law
- iv. It is always error to think too highly of ones self
  1. Even the most loving of us do not measure up to the example of Jesus
    - a. We deceive ourselves if we think otherwise
      - i. Yet, we should be striving to share love
- v. It is improper to try and correct our brethren without first examining our own selves
  1. Jesus said, *"And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye"* (Matthew 7:3-5)
    - a. Paul is saying the same thing
- vi. We can rejoice in our own work
  1. Paul is absolutely not saying that we can compare ourselves to others and rejoice that we are better
    - a. Anything that we have is the result of God's saving and sanctifying Spirit's work
  2. Simply, when we regularly examine ourselves and seek to follow the will of God, we will have a clear conscience before the Lord
    - a. This will produce inner peace
      - i. When we don't have this, we are not examining ourselves as often as we should
- vii. *"For each one shall bear his own load"*
  1. This is not a contradiction of **verse 2**
    - a. Verse 2 is speaking of practical needs of another believer
  2. This verse refers to the obligation of each child of God to serve the Lord
    - a. When we stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ, we will stand on our own service