

"The Gospel that is Visible"

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Galatians 6.1-18
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Paul continues to speak of Life in Freedom IN Christ, that is, of True Freedom. Paul begins this chapter 6, speaking and exposing how to face the Restoration of the fallen brother on time due to a fault. Paul is NOT referring to serious, conscious, deliberate sin; but rather an unexpected fall; and in this context, he alludes to the fact that he tries to order his life according to legalistic norms.

And how should we who are spiritual (that is, believers who walk in the spirit) act? According to the Law of Love, avoiding legalistic criticism, without judging so quickly, or condemning him; but by restoring our brother or sister.

In other words, we who are spiritual must fix that broken bone and restore it in the body. How should we restore it? With the Fruit of the Spirit (5:23), with meekness, with humility, and NOT with anger. "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love" Ephesians 4:2.

Why should we do the correction like this? Because no one is immune from falling, nor from what we point our fingers at when reproaching and blaming a brother

So, we must watch ourselves, with continuous and diligent attention, so that the next fall is not ourselves.

That is why we are urged to bear, and to help with solidarity, mutuality, effort and patience the difficulties or problems of the brother (meaning illness, pressures, tribulations, afflictions, weaknesses); those burdensome and heavy burdens that prevent one from moving forward.

How is it done, how is all this achieved? NOT under the Law of Moses, which deals with the "ego", but under the Law of Christ, which is love. Only Love lightens the weight of the burden, and pushes us to the spiritual and material need of our brother or neighbor.

For Paul, everything, absolutely everything we do is sowing; and this can be corrupt and degenerative if it is for our flesh, or it can be Eternal Life if it is for the Spirit.

Since sowing for the flesh, means that we do it for our own personal satisfaction outside and outside of the Perfect Will of God, with one's own effort. Everything outside of Christ is null, it is inert, out of all purpose, and it will be cast out; that is, it will end in corruption and perdition.

But sowing for the spirit means that you walk in the Spirit, according to the divine mandates of love. And although the seed before our eyes is small, if it sprouts from the Holy Spirit, it is clean of contamination. The advice is that we sow only what we want to reap, God guarantees that the harvest will come.

Paul, based on the principle we have just seen (Sowing and Harvesting), is followed by the following verses (v.9-10) where he encourages us to do good, and to persevere doing it. And Paul places special emphasis on the word Persevere, since the Galatians began well, in the Spirit, but they were going to end badly, in the flesh.

In the same way that the sower persists even with the winter cold and the summer heat; even with the tiredness of the accumulated effort, likewise we must PERSEVERE, because even if our reward is delayed, it will certainly arrive.

Although Salvation is by Grace (undeserved gift), we must NOT forget the need for good works for our fellow men. The believer's life on Earth constitutes a unique privilege that is to serve others in the name of Christ, and may HE be glorified.

We arrive at the Final Section of this wonderful Epistle of Galatians, and here Paul is going to give a new and last attack to the Judaizing false teachers who have done so

much damage to the Churches of Christ in Galatia; and he will end with a special apostolic blessing (v 11-18).

Despite the tone of the letter, the harshness, and the exhortation and rebuke, he calls them Brothers, and wishes them undeserved favor, that is, the Grace of Christ, as well as the Power of that grace to keep them firm in their Christian life; which was hampered and catastrophically influenced by Judaizing legalists.

Even in his farewell, he will highlight an explicit exaltation of the Gospel of Grace, over any other system there has been and may have been. In Pauline Theology, Grace appears in the greetings and final blessings, in Galatians it appears 7 times, and all related to God's unmerited favor for human beings only in Christ. And so, in the final verse of this letter to the Galatians, verse 18, Paul writes:

"Brothers, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen."

And so, Paul concluded this great letter by entrusting his brothers in Galatia to the grace of God.

If you have not yet allowed God to establish a relationship with you, that is to say that you have not started the Christian life, I invite you to resort to the only way to do so, which is to accept by faith the work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. That cross that was presented in the last words of the apostle Paul as the key to becoming children of God, and as the central element to live true freedom, identified and united with the Lord Jesus Christ, and controlled by the Spirit of God.