

Freedom in Christ Galatians 5:1-15

By Grace, through faith in Jesus Christ alone, we are set free. Placing yourself back under the Law is worthless for pleasing God and detrimental to your growth in Christ. Choose freedom that you might love well.

Galatians 5:1-12

- We are easily deceived
- Legalism is so subtle
- We do not have to be slaves again! (Gal 4:8-10)

How To Enter Into Freedom... Keep Standing Firm

At this point in the letter Paul is talking to those who are already believers, but the foundation of this conversation is built on how they entered into freedom?

- Gal 2:15-16 (Paul speaking to Peter)
 - Justified by Faith in Christ Jesus x 3
 - What comes with being justified
 - **Forgiveness of Sin** (Matt 26:28... My blood is the covenant... poured out for forgiveness of sins)
 - **Eternal Life** (Rom 6:23... wages of sin... free gift of God is eternal life)
 - **New Creation** (2 Cor 5:17... if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation)
 - **Adoption as Sons** (Gal 4:4-6... God sent His Son... that we might receive the adoption as sons)
 - **Riches to Come** (Eph 2:4-7... seated heavenly places, surpassing riches of His grace in kindness)
 - **Righteousness of Christ** (Phil 3:9... not because I have my own righteousness derived from the law, but because I have the righteousness that comes by way of Christ's faithfulness – a righteousness from God that is in fact based on Christ's faithfulness.)
 - We get all of that because of Jesus Christ. You cannot become more righteous than the righteousness of Christ.
 - You can't lose it
 - Don't need to prove it
 - Can't live well enough to be "worth it"

Moving Forward in Sanctification Apart From Legalism

- Definition – Attempting to achieve a relationship with God or grow in Christ-likeness through effort independent from the finished work of Christ and the empowering work of His Spirit.

- Flesh to Faith (Gal. 5:2-4) “he is under obligation...” / “severed from Christ”
 - Mindset & Power
 - Flesh – God saved me... now I’m going to put in the effort become more like Christ
 - I need to put in the work to prove I was worthy of Christ’s sacrifice.
 - Christ gave all for you, you should give all for Him
 - Business & Defeat
 - Faith – remain in grace/God saved me... stay connected to Christ/Holy Spirit will transform me
 - Very personal & Relational
 - Moment by moment dependence & humility
- Law to Love (Gal. 5:6)
 - Motivation & Focus
 - Law – Here is the set of standards that I need to become
 - Love – How can I Love God & Others more
 - Marriage
 - Spiritual Disciplines
 - Bible, Prayer, Worship, Evangelism, Serving, Stewardship, Fasting, Silence & Solitude
- My Kingdom to His Kingdom (Gal. 5:5)
 - Expectation
 - My Kingdom – Inward – Am I experiencing the Fruit of the Spirit, My rewards for being faithful
 - His Kingdom – Outward – I am blown away by the grace of God, and I want to make it known
 - Why be kind?
 - As we stand firm in our faith and are driven by love we become transformed into brighter representatives of His Character and His Kingdom
 - People see the character of God through interacting with me
 - People get a small taste of the coming Kingdom through my actions
- Application
 - Are there areas where you have placed yourself under a yoke of slavery to legalism?
 - Press into to truth that you are fully loved, accepted, and righteous in Christ. In response, share that amazing love with those around you.
- Reflection
 - “Build My Life”
 - There is no one like you. I will put my trust in you alone.
 - I will build my life upon your love it is a firm foundation
 - Show me who you are and fill me with your heart and lead me in your love to those around me