

Exhortations On How Those Who Are “Free In Christ” Should Live (Gal. 5:1 – 6:18)

Introduction

As with most of Paul’s letters, the final section is the application...it is how saints are to put into practice the doctrine set forth earlier in the epistle. Re: Paul’s letter to the Galatian churches, Christians must demonstrate they are led by the Spirit they had been given **(4:6)**, and not that they were living by law.

It is simply not enough for one to claim he/she is a child of God. One must bear the Spirit’s fruit to be a child of God according to the promises given to Abraham, the “father” of believers. This final section **(Gal. 5-6)** not only contains the 3rd and final proposition **(5:1)**, it also teaches how saints can show by their fruits they are indeed “free children.” Paul shows this by discussing various situations saints face.

- (1) What is Paul’s 3rd proposition? **(5:1)** [Page 5]
 - v. 2 _____
 - v. 3 _____
 - v. 4 _____
- (2) Before proving this final assertion, Paul pauses one more time to direct some personal comments to the Galatians **(5:2-12; 3:1-5; 4:8-20)**. These comments address the troubles they had created by listening to the Judaizers.
 - (a) Paul gives 3 consequences to the one who agreed to the Judaizers’ demands to be circumcised (*i.e., return to a law basis*). **(5:2-4; Acts 15:1)**
 - v. 2 _____
 - v. 3 _____
 - v. 4 _____
 - (b) What do those who are of the Spirit wait for? **(5:5)** Review question: how did Abraham gain his righteousness? **(3:6)**

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- (c) What statements does Paul make re: circumcision? **(5:6; Rom. 4:9-12)**

- (d) What rhetorical question does Paul ask? **(5:7)**

- (e) What warning does he give? **(5:8-9)**

- (f) Even though the Galatians had disappointed him greatly, how does Paul still encourage them? **(5:10)**

- (g) What argument does Paul offer, even without admitting it to be true? **(5:11)** Consider **Acts 16:1-3** and **Gal. 2:3-5** in your answer.

- (h) What harsh statement does Paul make re: the Judaizers? **(5:12)**
[This tells us how Paul really felt about these false teachers.]

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(3) The “proof” for Paul’s 3rd proposition is found in comments he gives re: various situations a Christian would be in **(5:13 – 6:10)**. These statements address how walking after the Spirit should be manifested in a saint’s life.

(a) How should a Christian treat others? **(5:13-15)**

[1] What do you think is involved with “biting & devouring one another?” **(Rom. 1:28-30)**

(b) How should a Christian keep himself faithful? **(5:16-18)**

(c) The “works/deeds of the flesh” **(5:19-21)**

[1] Sins re: sensuality **(v. 19)**

[2] Sins re: false religion **(v. 20a)**

[3] Sins re: mistreatment of others **(vv. 20b-21a)**

[4] Sins re: a lack of self-control **(v. 21b)**

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[5] What is important re: "...and such like?" **(5:21; 1 Tim. 1:10)**

[6] How serious is it to manifest these deeds? **(5:21b)**

(d) The "fruit of the Spirit" **(5:22-23)** *[Define each term]*

[1] "love" _____

[2] "joy" _____

[3] "peace" _____

[4] "patience" _____

[5] "kindness" _____

[6] "goodness" _____

[7] "faithfulness" _____

[8] "gentleness" _____

[9] "self-control" _____

[10] *Thought question:* do you think there is any significance to the terms "works" re: flesh and "fruit" re: Spirit?

[11] What does the last phrase of **v. 23** mean? *(Consider context)*

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(e) What have Spirit-led saints done re: fleshly desires? **(5:24; Rom. 6:6)**

(f) What is Paul's exhortation in **5:25-26**?

(g) How should a Christian treat brethren who have fallen away? **(6:1)**

(h) How should a Christian treat brethren who are still faithful? **(6:2-5)**

(i) How should a Christian use his material blessings? **(6:6-10)**

[1] Toward those who teach him **(v. 6)**

[2] Toward those in the world **(vv. 7-10)**

[3] How has **v. 10** been misused among liberal brethren?

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- (4) How does Paul begin to close this epistle? **(6:11)**
[NOTE: refer back to page 17, question 18]
- (5) How does Paul begin his final comments re: the Judaizers? **(6:12)** How was their hypocrisy exposed? **(6:13)**
- (6) How does Paul show he is different from the Judaizers? **(6:14)**
- (7) What was Paul's final exhortation? **(6:15-16; 5:6; Rom. 2:25-26; 1 Cor. 7:19; 2 Cor. 5:17)**
- (8) How did Paul advise the Galatian saints re: the Judaizers? **(6:17a)** For what reason? **(6:17b)**