

Galatians Handout

Week Twenty-Six

Review:

5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Against such things there is *no law*:

Now those who *belong* to Christ:

Titus 2: our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for *His own possession*

Rom. 14:8 for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, *we are the Lord's*.

1 Cor. 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that *you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price*: therefore glorify God in your body.

Gal. 3:29 And if *you belong to Christ*, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

1 Cor. 3:21 So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you, and *you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God*.

Jn. 1:12 Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God—

Not law but love. Decisive death to sin and flesh

Have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Gal. 3:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;

What Paul is doing in this verse, in 5:24, is reminding us that those fleshly desires are as good as dead.

Mk. 8:34 And calling the crowd to Him with His disciples, He said to them, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

Lk. 9:23 And He said to all, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

See crucifixion in the light it was intended by Paul and Jesus—with all its horror and cruelty.

-Crucifixion was pitiless.

-Crucifixion painful.

-Crucifixion was a lingering but decisive death.

Why daily?

We are tempted

There are parts of us

Resist the temptation to

Love not law. Death to sin. Life after death.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

The crazy shift...

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

This is how Christians should *not* treat others.

-Take note of reality

-Take note of the psychology

Boastful/vainglorious. An empty or false view of yourself whether better or worse.

Superiority

Inferiority

The cross means you can't feel superior-

The cross means you can't feel inferior-

Bold humility. Confident self-forgetfulness.

Phil. 2:3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant....

The important difference

How is this optimal?

How is this possible?

This is how Christians *should* treat each other.

1. Rather than try to wreck each other, we should restore each other.

6:1 Brothers, if anyone is overtaken in any trespass, you, who are spiritual, should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness and look to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted

Brothers:

What kind of trespass are we talking? When should we step in?

1 Pt. 4:8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

1 Cor. 13:5 [Love] does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, *does not take into account a wrong suffered*, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things

Overtaken/caught in any trespass:

Who gets to do the restoration?

Restore:

Guidelines for good restoration

-You need to be mindful of the person you are restoring.

-You need to be mindful of you.

so that you too will not be tempted

1 Cor. 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

Prov. 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling.

Mat. 18:15 If your brother sins, go and *show him his fault in private*; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

2. Rather than biting and devouring each other, we should bear each other's burdens.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and in this manner you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 And each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. 5 For each one will bear his own load.

Bear one another's burdens:

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2 Cor. 7:5 For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within. But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us *by the coming of Titus*; and not only by his coming, but also by *the comfort* with which he was comforted *in you*, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

- The image...

Similar external problems may call for different types of help from you.

Jn. 11:21 "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Jn. 11:32 Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

-We need to

-How far do we have to bear it?

Mat. 5:41 Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two.

-One anotherness:

Fulfill the law of Christ:

How do we carry the burdens without getting crushed?

Ps. 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Isa. 53:4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;

Gen. 4:9 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

-Comparison destroys you. You end up living in and by lies.

Jn. 8:31 If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Eph. 4:15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

Eph. 5:8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

Proverbs 26:12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

-It destroys community.

1 Cor. 4:7 For who regards you as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

Mat. 5:3 Blessed are the poor (ptochos-crouching cringing beggar) in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven...

4 But each one must examine/prove the quality of (present tense imperative) his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

But: Examine ourselves?! Won't that make us self-focused?

-It addresses motives

Ps. 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

What are we looking for?

-It keeps us from comparing ourselves to others.

-It speaks to *individual* accountability.

Rom. 14:1 Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions. One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only. The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him. Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand...¹⁰ But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

-It moves us to boast in God.

Rom. 15:17 Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God. For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed,

2 Cor. 10:13 But we will not boast beyond our measure, but within the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us as a measure... that is, in other men's labors, but with the hope that as your faith grows, we will be, within our sphere, enlarged even more by you, so as to preach the gospel even to the regions beyond you, and not to boast in what has been accomplished in the sphere of another. But he who boasts is to boast in the Lord. For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.

-It helps us rejoice the right way.

Mat. 24:19 "Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; *enter into the joy of your master.*'

5 For each one will bear his own load.

Will have reason/will bear... Future tense. We are all

We are only

Mat. 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory with His angels, and then He will reward each person according to what he has done."

2 Cor. 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

1 Cor. 3:12 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward."

Lk. 6:22 "Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven."

Discussion

I find this beautiful and, perhaps, related to our lesson. What do you think?

Lk. 23:26 When they led Him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, coming in from the country, and placed on him the cross to carry behind Jesus.

Mk 15:21 And they led Him out to crucify Him. They pressed into service a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to bear His cross.

Rom. 16:13 Greet Rufus, a choice man in the Lord, also his mother and mine.

When/what types of situations/people make you feel inferior or superior? What idol are you protecting? What do you need to tell yourself?