

# The Epistle to the Galatians

## Purpose of Galatians

- ▶ Sanctification – 4:19
- ▶ Not by the Law – 4:30; 5:18                      “ANTINOMIANISM”
- ▶ By the Spirit of God – 5:16
- ▶ Through the Cross of Christ – 2:20; 6:14

## Outline of Galatians (page 15)

- ▶ Defense of Paul’s Apostleship (1-2)
  - Divine authority – 1:12
  - Apostolic approval – 2:9
- ▶ Doctrine of Justification by Faith (3-4)
  - Justification: by faith without works – 3:5-6
  - The nature of the Law – not of faith – 3:11-12
  - Promise is by faith and not merit – 3:13-14
  - The temporary role of the Law.
    - Late addition – 430 years after Promise – 3:17-18
    - A schoolmaster until Christ – 3:24
    - A tutor until adoption – 4:2
  - The elementary principles of the world
    - Galatians 4:9-10; Colossians 2:8, 20-23
    - No salvation
    - Accursed of God – 3:10, 21-22
- ▶ Duties of Believers under Grace (5-6)
  - Stand fast in freedom – 5:1
  - Walk by the Spirit – 5:16

## **Galatians 5**

1. Stand fast in freedom – 5:1-6
2. Freedom to run – 5:7-14
3. Freedom in the Spirit – 5:16-24
4. Conclusion: the flesh crucified in Christ – 5:24

## **Galatians 6**

1. Walk by the Spirit – 5:25-6:10
2. Glory in the Cross – 6:11-17
3. Closing – 6:18

## Walk by the Spirit (5:25-6:10)

Active obedience to God (5:25)

- ▶ Walk v. Wait

Avoid certain behavior (5:26)

- ▶ become conceited
- ▶ provoke one another
- ▶ envy one another.

Adopt certain behavior (6:1-5)

- ▶ The spirit of gentleness (6:1a)
  - a blunder or failure to achieve
  - Restore
- ▶ Keep watch on yourself (6:1b)
- ▶ Bear one another's burdens (6:2)
- ▶ Avoid the deception of self importance (6:3-5)
  - Self examination
  - Bear your own burden
- ▶ The student shares with the teacher (6:6)
  - All good things
- ▶ You reap what you sow (6:7-8)
  - Sow to your flesh – corruption
  - Sow to the Spirit – eternal life
- ▶ Persevere in doing good (6:9-10)
  - To everyone
  - To the household of faith

## Glory in the Cross (6:11-17)

A sense of urgency

The Cross of Christ

- ▶ Galatians 1:4; 2:20-21; 3:1, 13; 5:11, 24; 6:12, 14
- ▶ The offense of the cross
- ▶ Prevented by circumcision – 5:11 and 6:12
- ▶ The “elementary principle”
- ▶ The Christian’s glory
  
- ▶ Three crosses
  - Christ crucified
  - World crucified to me
  - I am crucified to the world
  
- ▶ A new creation – the Spirit led life

Peace and mercy

- ▶ To those who walk by this rule
- ▶ The Israel of God
- ▶ Divine consolation
- ▶ The marks of Jesus

Grace be with your spirit (6:18)

# SANCTIFICATION

## **The Spirit led walk**

- ▶ A new creation – delivered from human inability
- ▶ Leads into righteous, obedient living
- ▶ Humility and love are key characteristics

## **Glory in the Cross**

- ▶ The provision of eternal salvation.
- ▶ The separation from the world
- ▶ Peace and mercy from God

# **ANTINOMIANISM**

The doctrine or belief that the Gospel frees Christians from required obedience to any law whether scriptural, civil or moral, and that salvation is attained solely through faith and the gift of divine grace.