

# GALATIANS

“THE LIBERTY WHEREWITH CHRIST HAS MADE US FREE”

**LESSON FIVE: Chapter 5:1-26**

From NELSON'S COMPLETE BOOK OF BIBLE MAPS AND CHARTS

- 1) The Gospel of Grace DEFENDED (Chapters 1 and 2)
- 2) The Gospel of Grace EXPLAINED (Chapters 3 and 4)
- 3) The Gospel of Grace APPLIED (Chapters 5 and 6)

Now, how do we LIVE in grace?

## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied


Don't be confused. The freedom we have in Christ is not the unchecked freedom of anarchists who refuse to be ruled.

Paul is talking about freedom from the law of sin and death, and from seeking to be justified by our works. Christ DIED to make this freedom possible, and no Christian should allow *anyone* to put them under that yoke of bondage.

### Galatians 5:1

- 1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.





There's no rest  
for the weary!

JUSTIFIED BY  
MY WORKS

THE YOKE OF BONDAGE





JUSTIFIED BY CHRIST

The yoke of Christ is to  
rest in HIS work.

### **Matthew 11:29-30**

- <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;  
for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
- <sup>30</sup> For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.

## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

The sacrifice of Jesus means and does nothing for anyone who thinks he can cleanse himself of his sins by his own work.

### Galatians 5:2

- <sup>2</sup> Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, **Christ shall profit you nothing.**



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

The Jews got hung up on circumcision. Gentile legalists have their own ideas of what a “real” Christian needs to cut out of his life.

### **Galatians 5:2**

<sup>2</sup> Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

But if anyone thinks that doing just a “token” of the law is all it takes to be justified by works, he is very wrong.

### **Galatians 5:3**

- 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.





## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Only an narcissist believes he is capable of cleansing himself of his sin – and *that* is how he falls from grace.

### **Galatians 5:4**

<sup>4</sup> Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

True Christianity is about faith in the saving work of Christ, a work that is not fully accomplished in this life.

### Galatians 5:5-6

- 5 For we through the Spirit wait for **the hope of righteousness by faith.**
- 6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

As Christians, our faith is “the substance of things hoped for” and “the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1). We do not yet see the fullness of Christ’s work in us, or what he has prepared for us. For now, we live in *hope* of glory (Col. 1:27), in *hope* of salvation (1 Thess. 5:8), and in *hope* of eternal life (Tit 1:2).

### Galatians 5:5-6

- 5 For we through the Spirit wait for **the hope of righteousness by faith.**
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## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Paul returns to the subject of the Galatians' departure from the faith, once again letting them know they have been manipulated by an outside, unholy source.

### Galatians 5:7-9

- 7 Ye did run well;  
**who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?**
- 8 This persuasion *cometh* not of him that calleth you.
- 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.





## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

In Part 1, he said they were  
“removed” (1:6)

In Part 2, he said they were  
“bewitched” (3:1)

Now in Part 3, he says  
they were “hindered”

### Galatians 5:7-9

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whole lump.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Leaven is applied to that which, though small in quantity, yet by its influence thoroughly pervades a thing; either in a good sense as in the parable Matthew 13:33; or in a bad sense, of a pernicious [wicked] influence.

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE TO THE BIBLE

### Galatians 5:7-9

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who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?
- 8 This persuasion *cometh* not of him that calleth you.
- 9 **A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.**



**Matthew 13:33** (leaven as a GOOD thing)

<sup>33</sup> Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

### Matthew 13:33

<sup>11</sup> Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

### Matthew 16:11-12 (the corrupting power of bad doctrine)

<sup>11</sup> How is it that ye do not understand that I spake *it* not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

<sup>12</sup> Then understood they how that he bade *them* not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.



### Matthew 13:33

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### Matthew 16:11-12

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### 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (the leaven of malice and wickedness)

<sup>6</sup> Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

<sup>7</sup> Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

<sup>8</sup> Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.

## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Paul was confident that the Galatians would amend their ways, and that the legalists would answer to God for their corruption of the gospel.

### **Galatians 5:10**

<sup>10</sup> I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Apparently there were the rumors that Paul was also adding legalism to his message, and so he asks the obvious question:

### **Galatians 5:11**

<sup>11</sup> And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision,  
why do I yet suffer persecution?  
then is the offence of the cross  
ceased.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Paul makes his desire for the legalists very plain:

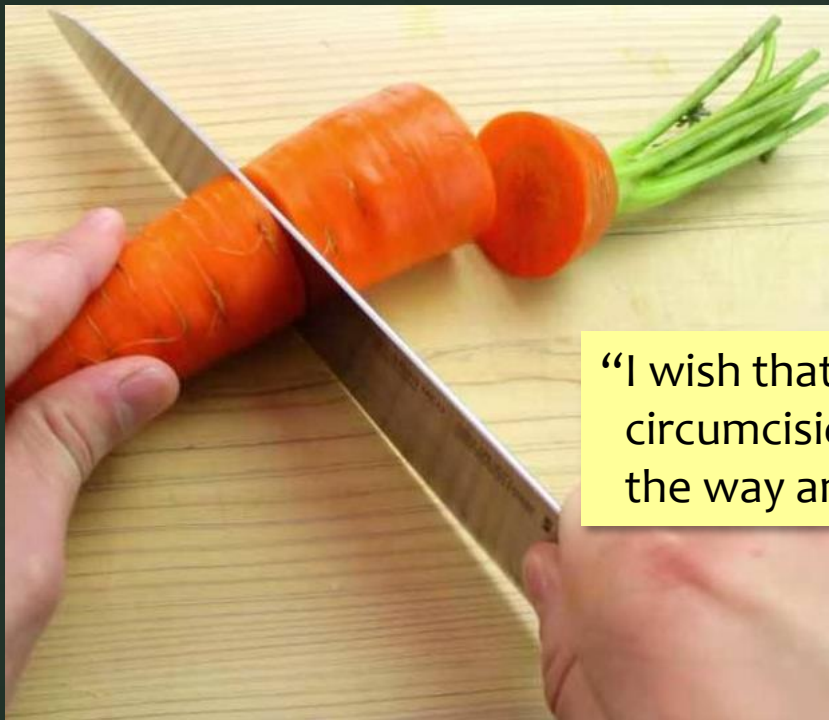
### **Galatians 5:12**

<sup>12</sup> I would they were even cut off which trouble you.





## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied



### Galatians 5:12

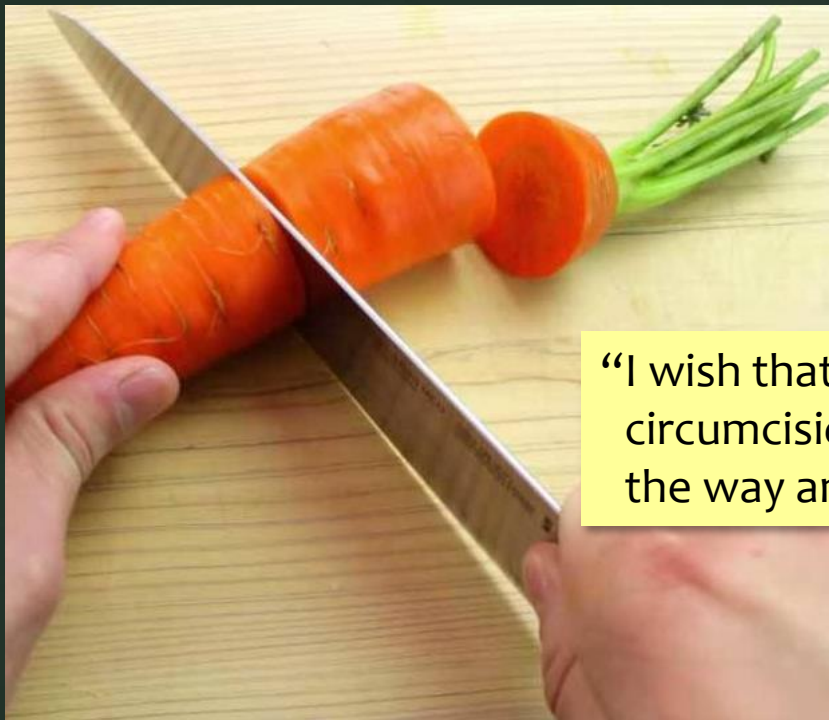
<sup>12</sup> I would they were even cut off  
which trouble you.

“I wish that those who are troubling you [by teaching that circumcision is necessary for salvation] would even [go all the way and] castrate themselves!”

THE AMPLIFIED BIBLE



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied



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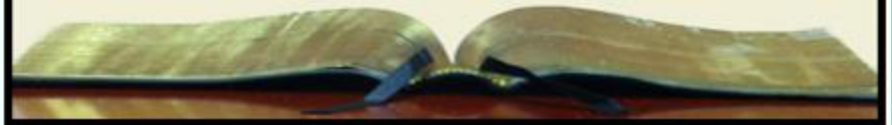


## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Paul made it clear that our liberty needs to be vigilantly guarded. Now he clarifies the correct usage of that liberty:

### **Galatians 5:13**

<sup>13</sup> For, brethren,  
ye have been called unto liberty;  
only *use* not liberty  
for an occasion to the flesh,  
but by love serve one another.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

It is our liberty in Christ that enables us to carry out the great commandment – to love for love's sake, and not because we are trying to hide our sins behind good deeds.

### **Galatians 5:14**

<sup>14</sup> For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this;  
Thou shalt love thy neighbour  
as thyself.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

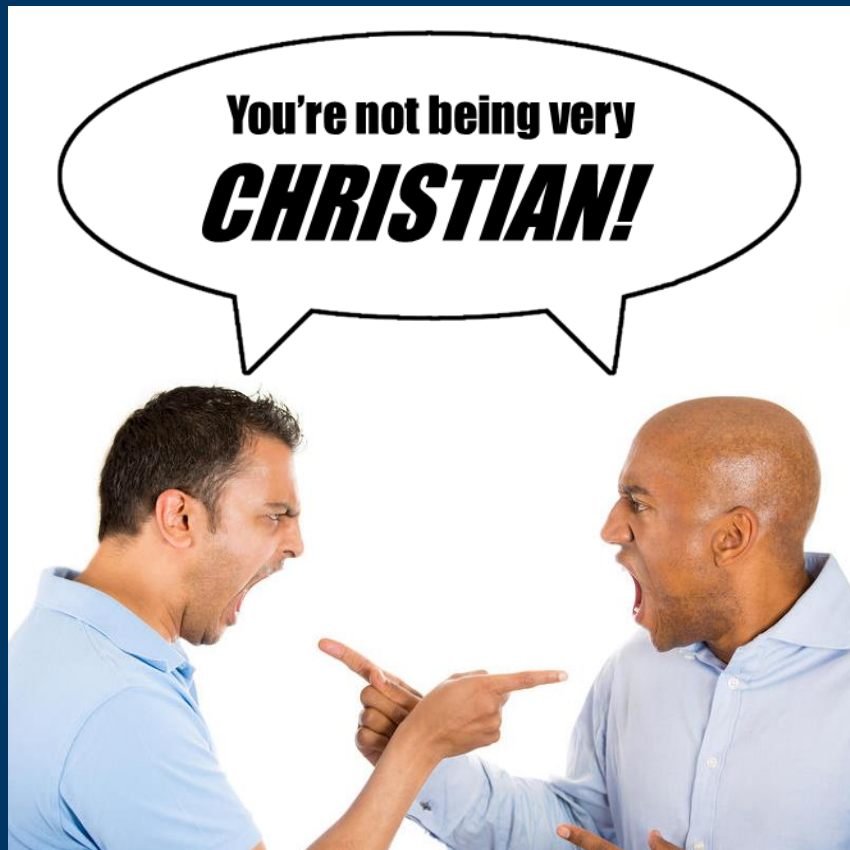
Our liberty in Christ does NOT license us to engage in personal attacks.

### **Galatians 5:15**

<sup>15</sup> But if ye bite and devour one another,  
take heed that ye be not  
consumed one of another.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied



### Galatians 5:15


<sup>15</sup> But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

Whether outwardly aggressive...





## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

An illustration of a man in a dark suit and red tie, looking at a very long, vertical scroll of paper. He is holding a few sheets of paper in his left hand. The scroll is blue and white, and it is unrolled on the floor. A speech bubble is coming from him.

I've been making a list of things you need to do better. Because I love you.

### Galatians 5:15

<sup>15</sup> But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

... or passively aggressive.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

But how can we enjoy such liberty without giving in to sin? What *replaces* the law?

### Galatians 5:16

<sup>16</sup> *This* I say then,  
**Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not  
fulfil the lust of the flesh.



How do you cross the shark-infested waters of temptation?

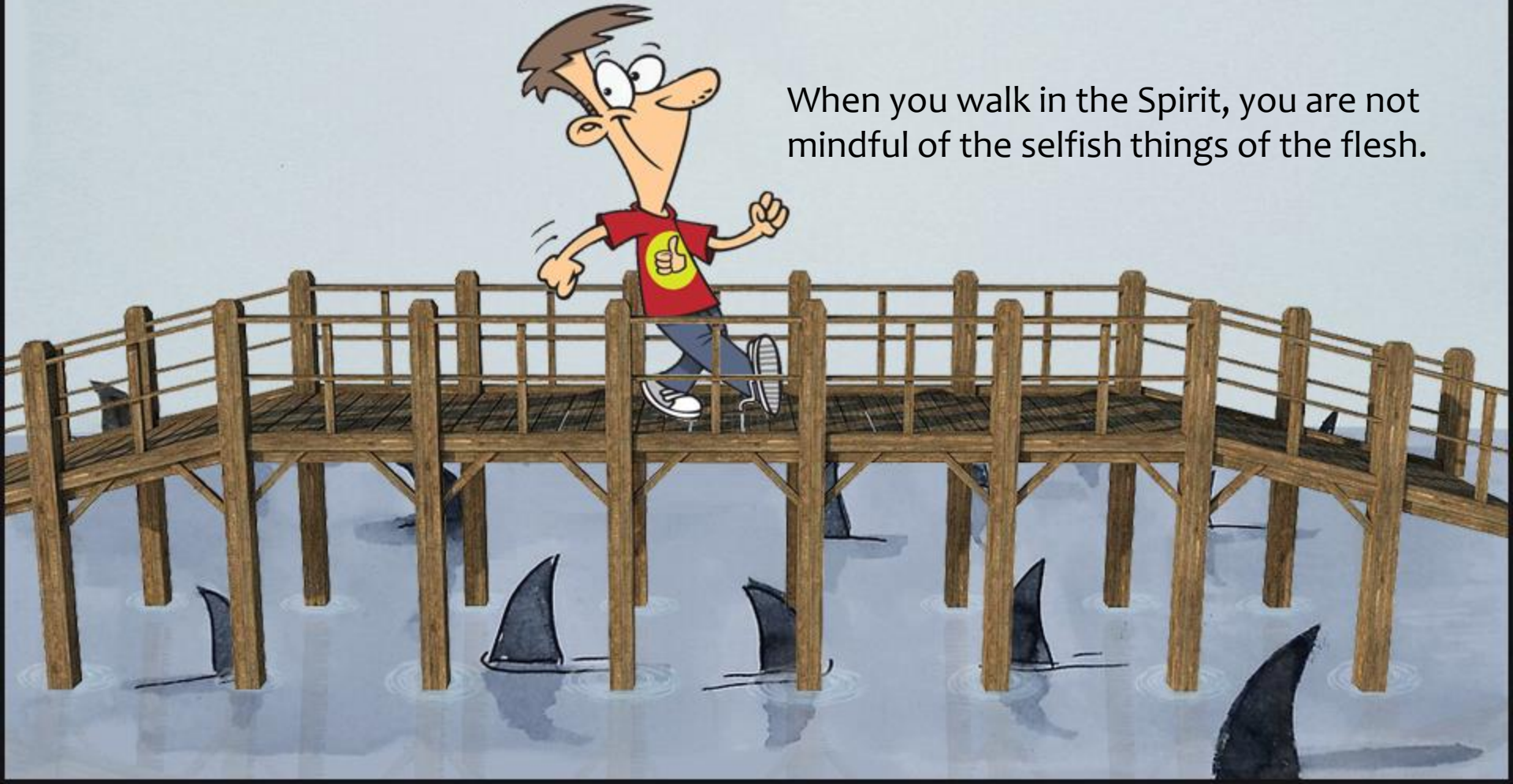


“Walk in the SPIRIT, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”





When you walk in the Spirit, you are not mindful of the selfish things of the flesh.



You could also say,

“Walk in **LOVE**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”





You could also say,

“Walk in **LIGHT**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Earlier Paul asked, “Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?” Most Christians have tried the path of abstinence, trying to suppress the carnal appetites. But the flesh will not fight against itself; it will only fight against the Spirit.

### **Galatians 5:17**

<sup>17</sup> For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh:  
and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

So how do we arrive at the Christ-like nature we desire? What *replaces* the law?

Our pilgrimage to holiness can only be achieved with the help of the Holy Spirit. That old list of do's and don'ts is replaced by an indwelling teacher and guide!

### **Galatians 5:18**

<sup>18</sup> But if ye be led of the Spirit,  
ye are not under the law.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

We know that man's worst behavior emanates from the corrupt nature he inherited from Adam.

### **Galatians 5:19-21**

- <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*;  
Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,
- <sup>20</sup> Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,
- <sup>21</sup> Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like:  
of the which I tell you before,  
as I have also told you in time past,  
that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

These things follow man  
around like a shadow.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Don't be alarmed! Paul is NOT making a sudden U-turn back to justification by works. If good works can't justify us, then neither can bad works "unjustify" us.

### Galatians 5:19-21

- <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*;  
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**of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Remember the allegory of Sarah and Hagar. Those who try to justify themselves through the works of the law **will not share in the inheritance of the children of promise.** “The son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac” (Gen. 21:10).

### Galatians 5:19-21

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of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

The flesh and the things of the flesh will be left behind. They are cast away, having no part in the kingdom of God.

### 1 Corinthians 15:50

<sup>50</sup> Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

### Galatians 5:19-21

- <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*;  
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of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, **that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

But even in *this* life, all of man's worse qualities disappear, and all of Christ's best attributes are manifested every time we leave our sins at the cross of Christ and walk under the yoke of the Holy Spirit.

### **Galatians 5:22-23**

- <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,  
<sup>23</sup> Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

There is nothing in these qualities that needs to be suppressed. To the contrary, they should be exhibited more and more!

### Galatians 5:22-23

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**against such there is no law.**



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

The problem of man's fallen nature – *the problem the law could not solve* – was solved on the cross. The works of the flesh were written on a sign and placed over our head, telling the world *why* we were crucified.

### **Galatians 5:24**

<sup>24</sup> And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Not *will* crucify. **Have** crucified.

### Galatians 2:20

<sup>20</sup> I am crucified with Christ:  
nevertheless I live;  
yet not I,  
but Christ liveth in me:  
**and the life which I now live in the  
flesh I live by the faith of the Son of  
God,** who loved me, and gave himself  
for me.

### Galatians 5:24

<sup>24</sup> And they that are Christ's  
**have crucified the flesh**  
with the affections and lusts.





## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Since we have been given new life in Christ, let us walk in the newness of that life. Since we are born of the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.

### **Galatians 5:25**

<sup>25</sup> If we live in the Spirit,  
let us also walk in the Spirit.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

Like someone who is pleased with his appearance after lifting weights, those who trust in their own works like to strut and pose in front of others. Such vain glory does not fulfill the law of Christ. Salvation is “not of works, lest any man should boast (Eph 2:9).

### **Galatians 5:26**

<sup>26</sup> Let us not be desirous of vain glory,  
provoking one another,  
envying one another.



## Part 3: The Gospel of Grace Applied

The work of Christ is to change us from within. This becomes evident to us (and others) as we walk in the Spirit, seeking only to glorify God.

### **Galatians 5:25-26**

- <sup>25</sup> If we live in the Spirit,  
let us also walk in the Spirit.
- <sup>26</sup> Let us not be desirous of vain  
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End of Chapter 5



## Key points from Galatians 5:

- 1 In Gal. 5:1, Paul describes the law as the yoke of \_\_\_\_\_.

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“the yoke of bondage”

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he is a debtor to do the whole law

## Key points from Galatians 5:

3 In Gal. 5:4, those who seek to be “justified by the law” are \_\_\_\_\_.

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“fallen from grace”

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