

Sunday, May 9, 2010—Grace Life School of Theology—Understanding Galatians and the Law—Galatians 6:1-3

### **Galatians 6:1**

- *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”*
- The first thing you want to notice is that Paul is speaking to believers. Paul is not making this statement in reference to those who are not saved but rather to the community of the redeemed.
- According to *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary* “overtaken” means: 1) To come up with in a course, pursuit, progress or motion; to catch, 2) To come upon; to fall on afterwards. Vengeance shall overtake the wicked, 3) To take by surprise
  - Mark 14:8
  - I Corinthians 11:21
- *Strong’s Concordance* defines the Greek word translated fault as a lapse or deviation from truth and uprightness, i.e. a sin or misdeed.
  - Matthew 6:14—trespass (9 times)
  - Romans 4:25—offence (9 times)
- Paul is clearly speaking here about someone who is on the verge of getting themselves involved with some type of sin.
- *“ye which are spiritual”*
- Who are the spiritual ones? Following the context it seems to make sense that they are the ones manifesting the fruit of the spirit in chapter 5. These are those who are walking in the spirit and not in the flesh.
  - I Corinthians 14:37
- *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary* defines “restore” as: 1) To return to a person, as a specific thing which he has lost, or which has been taken from him and unjustly detained. We restore lost or stolen goods to the owner, 2) To replace; to return; as a person or thing to a former place, 3) To bring back, 4) To bring back or recover from lapse, degeneracy, declension or ruin to its former state, 11) To bring to a sense of sin and amendment of life.
- Those who are spiritual have the responsibility of bring those overtaken in faults back to a place of truth and proper conduct.
- Christians today make a big deal about not judging or being judged. I am against being judged by people who are not rightly dividing the word of truth or those who are not exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit.

- I Corinthians 2:14-16

- Notice that this restoration is supposed to be done in the Spirit of meekness and with self reflection. The responsibility of those who are spiritual is to restore and not to condemn.
- Paul makes it clear that those who are involved in the rebuke and restoration need to consider themselves and their own fleshly propensity to do the same thing. That is why meekness is necessary in these situations.

### **Galatians 6:2**

- *“Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”*
- Surely this verse harkens back to what Paul said in Galatians 5:13. We should not be using the liberty that is ours in Christ to indulge our own flesh but rather to minister to and serve our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.
- It is the responsibility of the entire body of Christ to bear the burdens of the entire body.
- Galatians 5:14, 22—when we reach out in love and help other believers with their problems we are fulfilling the law of Christ which is to love.

### **Galatians 6:3**

- *“For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.”*
- This verse is pretty self-explanatory
- Titus 1:10-11
- Ephesians 4:14
- Humility is an interesting thing. First, you have those people who are humble and proud of it. Second, you have people who truly don't have any higher opinion of themselves than a dust practical on a table.
- In the context, when man thinks he is spiritual when he is not, he is deceiving himself. If a man thinks he is something when he refuses to help a brother with a load he is nothing. If a man will not bear his own burdens, he is nothing; and if a man thinks he is something because he borrowed someone else's glory, he is nothing.