

Sunday, August 13, 2023—Galatians 5:2-6 Fallen From Grace

Galatians 5:2

- **Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.**
- In the Greek, the word “behold” is in the imperative mood. Therefore, it is a sign that says, “Stop, look, or listen up.” In other words, Paul is speaking authoritatively. He is not giving them his opinion.
- Paul is telling the Galatians, if they are depending upon being “circumcised,” then Christ will in no way “profit” (help) or be of value to them.
- Acts 15:1—remember, this was the doctrine the Judaizers were teaching.
- Paul uses the word “circumcised” here to represent the keeping of the Mosaic Law. Circumcision was an outward symbol of a person’s subjection to the whole Law.
 - Philippians 3:5

Galatians 5:3

- **For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.**
- The Judaizers were trying to keep part of the Law by being circumcised, but they were not keeping all of it. Paul is demonstrating that taking on circumcision obligates one to keep the whole Law.
 - James 2:10
 - Galatians 3:10
- Once again, if you think you are going to be justified by the Law, you have to keep the entire thing.

Galatians 5:4

- **Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.**
- The phrase “of no effect” means to render entirely idle or useless. Paul says that Christ is totally useless to those who are seeking to be justified by the Law.
- Paul’s point is simply this, if you are saved partly by the Law, then you are not saved wholly by Christ’s all-sufficient work.
- Christ is either all for you or He is nothing.

- Romans 5:20—"falling from grace" deals with the adding of works to grace. Falling from grace is not talking about losing your salvation when you sin. When you sin, do you fall out of grace, or do you fall into it?
 - Galatians 2:21—it is also possible to "frustrate" the grace of God.
- Romans 11:6—"falling from grace" is adding works to grace. When you add works to grace, you frustrate the work of grace that Christ is doing in your life.
- Galatians 5:4—in the context, to fall from grace means that you abandon grace as the operative motivating principle in your life and "yoke" yourself back to the bondage of the law.

Galatians 5:5

- **For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.**
- Galatians 3:1-5—this verse harkens back to Paul's questions in Chapter 3.
- Titus 2:13—our blessed hope.
- Ephesians 4:30—sealed unto the day of redemption.
- Ephesians 1:16-17—redemption of the purchased possession.
- Romans 8:23-25—wait for the redemption of our bodies.
- I Corinthians 13:13