

Sunday, September 10, 2023—Galatians 5:13-14 Love Fulfills The Law

Galatians 5:13

- **For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.**
- I Corinthians 16:14—all our things are to be done with charity.
- Ephesians 4:16
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-7—what charity looks like amongst believers.
 - suffereth long—*patiently endures with people & circumstances*
 - is kind—*acts benevolently, makes oneself useful to others*
 - envieth not—*is not jealous or envious of what others have*
 - vaunteth not itself—*does not brag and know better all the time*
 - not puffed up—*is not proud & full of self*
 - Doth not behave itself unseemly—*unbecoming, inappropriate*
 - seeketh not her own—*not about me, myself and I – selfish trinity*
 - not easily provoked—*is not excite mind to angry action*
 - thinketh no evil—*that which is bad and/or harmful for another*
 - Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth—*does not rejoice in unrighteousness*
 - Beareth all things—*covers the faults of others not to expose them*
 - believeth all things—*gives others the benefit of the doubt*
 - hopeth all things—*expects and trusts in the best for others*
 - endureth all things—*bears up under the pressure of others*
- Galatians 5:13—the verb “serve” is a present active imperative in other words it is a command. Students of the book of Galatians have already encountered the word translated “serve” three different times.

- Galatians 4:8—“service”
- Galatians 4:9, 25—“bondage”
- Galatians 5:13—Paul wanted the Galatians to be motivated by love to serve or be in be in bondage to each other.
 - Motivator—love
 - Action—service
 - Target—one another

Galatians 5:14

- **For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**
- Leviticus 19:18
- Matthew 22:37-40—if mankind had perfectly loved God and his neighbor there would have been no need for the Mosaic Law in the first place.
- *Golden Rule*—“treat others as you yourself would like to be treated.” Just as we see to the needs of our own well-being; likewise, believers are to love other members of the body of Christ with the same care we direct towards ourselves.
- Galatians 5:14—Paul’s statement here means that the basis for the whole law can be summed up in the word love. Under the law if Israel had perfectly kept God’s precepts, she would have done what love dictated. If the Galatians who were so worried about keeping the law would use their liberty to “by love serve one another” they would actually be fulfilling what the law required, namely to “love thy neighbor as thyself.”
 - Romans 13:8-10—the liberty of grace gives believers the spiritual ability to fulfill the law.
- Ephesians 5:2—just because we have been freed from the law, we do not have license to sin but liberty to walk in love.
 - Leviticus 1:9, 13, 17; 2:1-2
 - Romans 12:1—we are to be a living sacrifice unto the Lord. When believers “by love service one another” we fulfill the righteous requirements of the law and are a “sweet-smelling savor” unto the Lord.