



MESSAGE/SERIES:

Series: Stand Alone Message

Message: “*Revival REVEALED*”

Text: Galatians 5:13-18

DATE: January 31, 2021

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

Galatians 5:13-18, Acts 3:18-19, Romans 8:3-5, Romans 13:9-10, Matthew 22:34

(command of love), 1 Peter 5:6-7 (Casting cares upon him), Titus 3:1-7 (Heirs), 2 Corinthians 3:17 (freedom to approach the throne), Luke 6:45, Galatians 5:19-23, Psalm 119:47-48, Romans 7:21, James 4:4-10, John 13:35 (Love), Philippians 4:4 (Joy), Romans 5:1-2 (Peace), Colossians 1:11 (Patience), Luke 6:34-36 (Kindness), Romans 15:14 (Goodness), 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (Faithfulness), 1 Peter 2:17-18 (Gentleness), 2 Timothy 1:7 (Self-control)

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[Galatians 5:13-18]

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ga 5:13–18.

BACKGROUND & OTHER STUDY HELPS:

[LAW vs GRACE VIEW FROM JUDAISM] Jews feared what the gospel of grace might do to ethics and what it might allow in a pagan world. The Law provided a guideline to walk by and keep the people from veering back into paganism in their eyes. “Judaistic Christianity, not only stresses the necessity of the ethical life but points out the bases and its inter-relationships” (Ridderbos, 1953, pg. 199-200).

[SYNERGISM] “The teaching that we cooperate with God in our efforts of salvation. This is opposed to monergism which is the teaching that God is the sole agent involved in salvation. Cults are synergistic in that they teach that God’s grace combined with our efforts is what makes forgiveness of sins possible.”

Galaxie Software, 10,000 Sermon Illustrations (Biblical Studies Press, 2002).

[FREEDOM/LIBERTY] Greek word “*eleutheria* (ἐλευθερία, 1657), “liberty” is rendered “freedom” in Gal. 5:1, “with freedom did Christ set us free.” The combination of the noun with the verb stresses the completeness of the act, the aorist (or point) tense indicating both its momentary and comprehensive character; it was done once for all. The rv margin “for freedom” gives perhaps the preferable meaning, i.e., “not to bring us into another form of bondage did Christ liberate us from that in which we were born, but in order to make us free from bondage.”

The word is twice rendered “freedom” in the rv of Gal. 5:13 (kjv, “liberty”). The phraseology is that of manumission from slavery, which among the Greeks was effected by a legal fiction, according to which the manumitted slave was purchased by a god; as the slave could not provide the money, the master paid it into the temple treasury in the presence of the slave, a document being drawn up containing the words “for freedom.” No one could enslave him again, as *he was the property of the god.*”

W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White Jr., *Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville, TN: T. Nelson, 1996), 255.

[FREEDOM IN GALATIANS 5-6]

- *Freedom from Rituals (v1-6)*
- *Freedom from Legalism (v7-12)*
- ***Freedom in the Spirit (v13-26)***
- *Freedom from Spiritual Bondage (6:1-10)*

“Life after the flesh becomes dominant when the freedom in Christ is denied or abused.”

-Herman N. Ridderbos THD.

OUTLINE:

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

I. (v13a) FREEDOM

-Revival is Revealed in our understanding of our freedom...

A. Those who are followers have been “**called**” to freedom

1. **Called**= καλέω (kaleō), *call; name; summon*.

a) The Holy Spirit Calls, Names us as God’s own, Summons us to Freedom or Liberty as a child

B. This Freedom is specifically the **Freedom to approach God as His child**

1. **2 Corinthians 3:16-18** ¹⁶ *But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*”

a) Freedom to Carry our burdens to God (Anxiety is dealt with here)

C. **Free from Guilt** as with this liberty comes *peace in knowing there is no more war with God...*

1. *You can feel the peace of a cease-fire and open borders*

D. **Free from the slavery of Sin**

1. *The law points out that we are slaves to sin and unable to free ourselves*

a) **Titus 3:3** *“For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.*

(1) Once means that we are freed from the slavery of passions and pleasures and we can choose to serve the Lord instead

= A follower of Christ that understands His freedom will enter His courts with thanksgiving and His courts with praise

II. (v13b-15) OPPORTUNITY

-Revival is Revealed in how we handle our freedom...

- A. (v13b) “**Opportunity**”- A military context of a place in which an offensive strike may be launched
 - 1. *The grace of God given to us at the point of salvation is no license to sin or gratify the flesh*

- B. Those who Walk in the Spirit are **able to resist the Flesh** and its desires to dominate and get our way of a close relationship with God

- C. The Christian life is **not bondage** to the law but a call to freedom

- D. Just we because the penalty of sin has been paid and because the guilt has been removed it is **not an opportunity to abuse our position of grace**

- E. The freedom we have is an opportunity **to return thanks for our freedom** to God

- F. (v14) “The whole law is fulfilled in one word: ‘**you shall love your neighbor as yourself**’
 - 1. **Matthew 22:37-40** *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ **On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.**”*
 - a) **We fulfill all of the law when we Love**
 - (1) *God with all we have*
 - (2) *and love our neighbor with the same depth we love ourselves*
 - (a) **Loving our neighbor is serving our neighbor**
 - (b) “We are free in relation to God but this passage leaves us as servants to one another”(John R. Stott)
 - (i) *Love drives serving*
 - (ii) *Selfishness drives self-gratification*

- G. (v15) “But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not **consumed by one another.**”
 - 1. *We will wound one each other if we are not Loving God and others*

2. *If our path of destruction continues we will devour one another in hatred and bitterness and jealousy*

- a) This Spiritual destruction is so complete that there is no deliverance or healing to be had on earth

=A follower of Christ that values His freedom will serve the Lord and others out of a devoted and reverent heart

III. (v16-18) CONTROL

-Revival is Revealed when we are in control of our desires...

A. Freedom to **walk with God** is given

B. Walking with God **daily is a decision**

1. **Titus 3:4-5** *We were once foolish and disobedient “But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit**”*

C. We must follow this conditional statement that ends in a promise

1. **Galatians 5:16** *“But I say, **walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.**”*
 - a) **“Gratify”**= teleo (τελέω, 5055), “to finish, to bring to an end” (telos, “an end”), frequently signifies, not merely to terminate a thing, **but to carry out a thing to the full**. It is used especially in the Apocalypse, where it occurs eight times, and is rendered “finish” in 10:7; 11:7, and in the rv of 15:1, which rightly translates it “(in them) is finished (the wrath of God).” So in v. 8; in 17:17, rv, “accomplish,” and “finish” in 20:3, 5, 7; in Luke 2:39, rv, “accomplish,” for kjv, performed.
 - b) If you walk in the commands of the Lord you will not sin by carrying the desires of your own flesh to the doing level of sin
 - c) If you live a life that is sensitive to the Holy Spirit because you have been in the word you will identify the problems before they grow to maturity
 - d) If you have determined in your heart that you will die daily and you will pick your cross daily (Luke 9:23-24)
 - e) The Spirit arouses the human desire and effort to follow the Spirits leading as we stay in the word

(1) When we do not have the desire to do as the Lord commands we should study the word of God specifically, pray fervently, and begin to do until the feelings follow and desire grows

D. (v17) **“17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for **these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.**”**

1. *The flesh and the Spirit of God are in irreconcilable conflict*
2. *By virtue of the Spirit of God in us that can subdue the flesh...*
 - a) A growing conviction of sin is evidence of a close walk/ walking in the Spirit
 - b) A greater restraint of the tongue is evidence of walking in the Spirit
 - c) A greater misery of sin when it occurs is evidence of walking in the Spirit
 - d) The Spirit becomes our conscience to produce guilt and guidance
 - e) The Spirit is our guard as well as our guide to keep us from sin and to keep us close to the Lord, living in Revival

E. (v18) **“18 But **if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.**”**

1. *If you are led by the spirit then you are a child of God and You are not*
 - a) under the curse of the Law
 - b) Still in bondage to sin
 - c) No longer Spiritually dead

(1) No longer separated from God

= The Spirit of God enables the Child of God to Lovingly serve in this word fulfilling the New Testament Law of Love (Love God and Love others)

“Christian life began not with our decision to follow Christ but with God’s call for us to do
SO...”

-John R. W. Stott

MY PERSONAL STUDY NOTES:

