

Thinking Biblically

Galatians 5:1-4

Intro: Having shown from Biblical application that the OT Law has no control over whether one is saved or not, the Apostle Paul moves on to how the Galatian believers and all believers should live in light of the Grace of God. These are _____ derived through Thinking Biblically.

- I. Stand fast in the _____ we have in Christ Jesus Vs 1
- A. **Therefore**-based upon the Biblical conclusion that the restrictions or additions one tries to place on the believer through non-biblical teachings are to be _____ from the believer's life. 4:28-31
- B. **Stand fast**-stand firm in; keep one's position and do not allow others to _____ them
- C. **In the liberty wherein Christ hath made us free**
1. **Liberty**-_____; free to do as one pleases
 2. The word is found 11 times in the NT and each place has the same meaning each time.
 - a. Ro 8:21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
(Sin places _____, God's Grace frees one from that bondage)
 - b. 1Co 10:29 Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other: for why is my liberty judged of another man's conscience? (Our liberty in Christ should not become a _____ stumbling block for other spiritually weaker believers. Our liberty in Christ is not to be used as a deliberately offensive thing to others.)
 - c. 2Co 3:17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. (Where the Holy Spirit dwells-in the heart of believers-there is freedom to understand Biblical truth and thus to walk in it.)
 - d. Ga 2:4 (There are those who do not _____ the liberty which come with being a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ)
 - e. Ga 5:1
 - f. Ga 5:13 (The believer's liberty in Christ is not a free license to commit sin)
 - g. Jas 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. (The Word of God gives the laws for obtaining _____ from sin's penalty, power and one day presence.)
 - h. Jas 2:12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty. (Even though we have liberty in Christ, there is a law of _____ that goes with it-the Word of God, and we as believers are to _____ by that "Law of Liberty")
 - i. 1Pe 2:16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. (Our Christian liberty is _____ a license to sin or divide the brethren, nor is it a license to violate the _____ of man or God)
 - j. 2Pe 2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. (The occult can make great promises, but they themselves are _____ to their own false teachings)
- D. **Be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage**
1. **Entangled**-to be held _____ or ensnared
 - a. Mr 6:19 Therefore Herodias had a **quarrel** against him, and would have killed him; but she could not: (John, the Baptist)
 - b. Lu 11:52-54 Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered. 53 And as he

said these things unto them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to **urge** him vehemently, and to provoke him to speak of many things: 54 Laying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, that they might accuse him.

2. **Yoke of bondage**-the yoke of trying to keep the OT Law and its rituals as a means of obtaining God's _____

II. To turn from the Lord Jesus Christ alone to another form of obtaining salvation makes that which Christ did of _____ effect to those who will follow such absurd thinking and practice Vs 2-4

A. **Vs 2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.**

1. **Circumcision**-these were _____ believers who had never practiced circumcision. Circumcision was give to the _____ of Israel as a mark of distinction by God when He raised up the nation out of nothing. Circumcision was strictly for the nation of Israel. To require this of the Gentiles as a necessity for salvation was nothing but corrupt _____.
2. The Galatian believers had not become Christians by anything other than placing their faith in the finished work of Christ _____ their repentance and confession of their sinfulness to God.
3. To now begin practicing the Jewish act of circumcision was to make the statement that Christ's sacrifice was _____ sufficient for salvation and thus make that which Christ did on the cross of _____ value to the Galatian believers.

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

1. It did not stop just with circumcision. To keep one part of the OT Law obligated them to keep _____ the OT Law.
2. Religious legalism always "entangles" the believer, and there is no end to the "man-made rules" that one will come up with in an effort to make one look good and become _____ to God by "good works".

C. **Vs 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.**

1. This is the bottom line to those who would add anything to the Grace of God for salvation and service
2. To add anything to the Grace of God _____ what they are teaching as Biblical Truth, and becomes error and falsehood.
3. **Fallen from grace**
 - a. God's unearned _____ which He freely bestows on whomever He chooses
 - b. One's salvation is a free gift to the _____ through the Grace of God
 - c. To add something to the Grace of God for salvation _____ the Grace of God and the favor and mercy which go with it

Concl: The Grace of God ceases to be the Grace of God the moment we _____ something to it! Grace is a very difficult thing for the sin-influenced mind to comprehend, and often we will _____ or pervert it unless we stick strictly with what the Scripture teaches _____. Thinking Biblically will help us understand this marvelous gift of Salvation by the Grace of God alone.