

Study Questions: Lesson 7

12. Galatians: Life in Liberty

First please read chapter 12 in the text.

RESPONSE

Grace for the Gauls

1. Who were the Galatians?

Why Written

2. What doctrinal issue facing this church caused *The Epistle to the Galatians* to be written?

The True Gospel - Ch. 3 - 4

3. What was the purpose of the Law?

True Freedom - Ch. 5 - 6

4. Summarize in a few words the *works of the flesh* and the *works of the Spirit*.

REFLECTION

5. Are Christians who look to God's grace "lawless"? If not, by which laws do *you* believe true Christians live? Explain your answer.

13. Ephesians: Union with Christ

First please read chapter 13 in the text.

RESPONSE

Why Written

6. Why did Paul write *The Epistle to the Ephesians*?

Union Obtained - Ch. 1 - 3

7. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. Summarize briefly what this says about the true Christian who knows Jesus Christ.
8. For what purpose does Paul say God saves souls?

Union Maintained - Ch. 4 - 6

9. What relationship is marriage designed to illustrate?
10. Read Ephesians 6. List the Divine weapons of warfare.

REFLECTION

11. If true saving faith is revealed in a life of delightful following-after Christ in His holy ways, why do many Christians feel that the Christian life is restraining, and that "non-Christians seem to have more fun?"

Lesson 7 Galatians and Ephesians

Chapter 12 - Galatians: Life in Liberty

1. In the third century BC, a group of people who had originally migrated westward into Macedonia and Greece from north of the Black Sea settled in the north central part of Asia Minor. The Greeks called these new settlers *Galatai*, from which the name *Galatians* is derived. By 25 BC this section of Asia Minor and all its inhabitants had been taken over by the Romans under the rule of Augustus Caesar.
2. Initially, the Galatians had been received into the Church apart from the rite of circumcision, and without any obligation to keep the Jewish ceremonial law. Baptism had been administered. But then Jewish Christians in the Church at Antioch (who had come to faith but who were also legalistic) challenged the practice of accepting Gentiles into the Church without insisting that they observe the Jewish law (Acts 15:1). The situation became serious as the whole issue was debated and individuals took sides.
3. The Law was only a caretaker until Christ came. The Law had no life to give. Only Christ can give life and that more abundantly. Christ gives life by grace through faith, alone (cp. Eph. 2:8-9). No man has ever been justified by the works of the Law, but through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. The works of the flesh are selfish sins: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, jealousy, wrath, strife, division, heresies, envying, murder, drunkenness, reveling.
The works of the Spirit are: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.

Chapter 13 - Ephesians: Union with Christ

6. Paul wanted to encourage the Ephesians (and possibly other churches) that they must continually uphold the magnificence of Christ and the true doctrines of the Christian faith, and attend to their application, in order to avoid drifting into error. He first writes an unhindered meditation on the magnificence of our riches in Christ, regarding union with Christ personally, and then focuses on unity in the Christian Church through practical application.
7. God has abundantly blessed His children with every spiritual blessing (just as we will have in heaven itself), to this end He has chosen us, redeemed us, and adopted us into His family, all by grace.
8. God has saved souls in order that they “should be to the praise of His glory” (1:12).
9. Husbands and wives must love and respect one another (with agape love, 5:22-23). By doing this they will model the relationship that exists between Christ and the Church (5:25,32). Parents and children are to live in harmony as well (6:1-4).
10. Loins girded – Truth, Breastplate – Righteousness, Sandals – Peace, Shield – Faith, Helmet – Salvation, Sword – The Word

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