

What follows represents the unedited lecture notes of Pastor Merritt's teaching of the Book of Galatians. Please feel free to reproduce all or part for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians Lesson

2-11-2018

1. Last week I taught Gal 5:5 and when the clock tolled 10:45 we were in the process of exegeting Gal 5:6.
2. Before continuing, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may be necessary.
3. Here is an expanded translation of Gal 5:1-5.

Expanded Translation

Gal 5:1 Christ has made it possible for believers to enjoy a unique freedom in Christ and we must never again become involved in the exasperating bondage of the Mosaic Law.

Gal 5:2 Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, you will find yourself awash in a sea of doubt concerning whether Christ's death was enough.

Gal 5:3 I want to again make clear to each and every one of you who lets himself be circumcised; after your circumcision you become responsible for keeping the whole law, i.e., every jot and tittle set forth in the first five books of the Old Testament.

Gal 5:4 For you see you who are trying to attain justification by keeping the Mosaic law; Christ has discharged you, in fact you are fallen from grace and are now on your own traveling dangerously in enemy territory without a means of communication when you run into repeated attacks.

Gal 5:5 For you see we by means of the work of God the Holy Spirit and His teaching ministry, we eagerly await the hope of a temporal righteousness as a product of faith.

4. So far, we have exegeted that portion of Gal 5:6 which in the KJV has been translated **"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh ...** noting it might better be rendered *"For you see since you became believers in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision availed you of anything. The only thing that counts is faith operating through ..."*
5. Paul now contrasts that taught in verse five with the futility of righteousness by circumcision and/or legalistic attempts at law keeping.
6. I want to review some of that learned and then begin a review of the *Doctrine of Agape*.

KJV-New Sentence

Gal 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

NIV-New Sentence

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

1. Since I earlier taught the *Doctrine of Circumcision*, I want to move forward in our verse to the sentence translated in the NIV: **“For in Christ ... The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”**

2. I want to exegete that sentence high-lighted above:

FOR IN CHRIST THE ONLY THING THAT COUNTS Γαρ εν Χριστος

1. **Gar En Christos** is better translated “For you see as a believer in Christ and a member of His forever family the only thing leading to temporal sanctification ...”

2. **Gar** is an explanatory particle followed by the preposition **En** and the proper noun singular **Christos** declined as a locative singular.

3. Let’s see how our verse looks so far by way of an expanded translation.

Expanded Translation

Gal 5:6 For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus, there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith operating ...

4. Now for new material and the phrase “through love.”

THROUGH LOVE. δια αγαπη.

1. **Dia Agape** is better translated “producing divine good in the right lobe of your soul.”

2. **Dia** is a preposition followed by the noun **Agape** declined as a genitive singular.

3. **Agape** love is commanded in Scripture. Here we find its power is contrasted with the impotence of circumcision and façade of law keeping.

Mat 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt **love** the Lord thy God with all thy heart (*Karidia*), and with all thy soul (*Psuche*), and with all thy *understanding* (*Dianoia*).

4. In the Kingdom Age the negative people who did not accept the Messiah's offering were said to not love God.

Joh 5:41 I receive not honor from men.

Joh 5:42 But I know you, that ye have not the **love** of God in you.

Joh 5:43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

5. If you love God you will do what the Spirit tells you to do -- a Kingdom Age command.

Joh 14:15 If ye **love** me, keep my commandments.

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

6. If you love God in the Kingdom Age there are a number of promises from Christ such as the indwelling of not only the Spirit but also the Son and the Father.

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man **love** me, he will keep my words: and my Father will **love** him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

6.1 There are many passages that indicate all believers today are indwelt by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Joh 17:22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one:

Joh 17:23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and **have loved** them even as you have loved me.

Joh 14:20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

Col 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Joh 7:37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.

Joh 7:38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

Joh 7:39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

7. God has provided subtle differences between the two New Testament words for love.

Joh 21:15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest (**AGAPAO**) thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love (**PHILEO**) thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

Joh 21:16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest (**AGAPAO**) thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love (**PHILEO**) thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Joh 21:17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest (**PHILEO**) thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest (**PHILEO**) thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love (**PHILEO**) thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

8. Production in the Christian life is a product of doctrine in the right lobe which is provided by the ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

Rom 5:5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his **love** into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

8.1. The source of divine good is Bible doctrine:

Jam 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

Jam 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Jam 1:21 **Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.**

Jam 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Jam 1:23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

Jam 1:24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

Col 1:6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; **and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it**, and knew the grace of God in truth:

Isa 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isa 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

Isa 55:11 **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please,** and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 so that the man of God **may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

2Pe 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, **through the knowledge of him** that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2Pe 1:4 **Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

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