

PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE

GALATIANS

We are free *from* the curse of the law

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse . . . that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith . . . Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law.

- *Galatians 3:10-14*



We are free *from* the curse of sin

Having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness . . . having been set free from sin, [you have] become slaves of God.

- *Romans 6:18, 20, 22*

We are free *from* the curse of death

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus . . . For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the law of sin and death.

- *Romans 8:1-2*



We are free *for* spiritual life and living

For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use your liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another . . . I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

- *Galatians 5:13, 16*



The implications of this Christian freedom as Paul develops it are vast and far-reaching, but essentially he sees freedom as a reality effected in and through the Christ-event, which has broken the power of sin and neutralized the individual hostility against God; which at the same time has covered the guilt and stain of sin and erased the past; which has crushed all enslavement to self, to religious convention, to the present powers of evil, and to cosmic forces;

and which has triumphed over every force that dominates humankind, including human morality itself. But that is only one side of the Pauline coin - the “freedom from what?” side; there is also the significant “freedom for what?” side, and this many-faceted emphasis in Paul, though it can be simply stated, is infinitely complex in its outworking: a Christian is now free to obey God in a radical fashion by serving his fellow human beings in selfless love.

- *E. J. Epp*

**Don't Lose Your Grip
on Grace**

- I. The Dangers of a Different Gospel (1-6)
 - A. Christ becomes of no value (2)
 - B. The Law becomes an obligation (3)
 - C. A Christian becomes legalistic (4-6)

One who has genuinely trusted Christ might exchange living by grace for living under law.

True Christians will not reject the true way of salvation, but they confuse themselves and others when they try to live by works. The security of salvation from the divine side is guaranteed by God to His own, but from the human side it is manifested by perseverance in grace. Paul is here calling for such perseverance in grace by the genuine believer.

- *John MacArthur*



- II. The Disseminators of a Different Gospel (7-12)
 - A. They hinder the truth (7)
 - B. They are not of God (8)
 - C. They corrupt everybody (9)
 - D. They will be judged (10)
 - E. They oppress others (11)
 - F. They should be cut off (12)

PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE

GALATIANS