

Galatians (Part 18)
(A Life of Freedom (Part 2) – Galatians 5:7-12)

Introduction (1:1-10)

I. Paul's Apostolic Authority: The Divine Origin of Paul's Gospel Defended (1:11-2:21)

A. Designated (1:11, 12)

B. Defended (1:13-2:21)

II. The Gospel: The Truth of Paul's Gospel Demonstrated (3:1-4:31)

A. By Doctrinal Argument (3:1-4:7)

B. By Direct Appeal (4:8-20)

C. By Didactic Allegory (4:21-31)

III. The Christian Life: The Practical Results of Paul's Gospel Described (5:1-6:18)

A. A Life of Freedom (5:1-15)

1. An Opening Assertion (v. 1a)

2. A Pointed Command (v. 1b)

3. A Three-Fold Warning (vs. 2-6): If the Galatians receive circumcision as a means of gaining acceptance with God, they lose the benefits of Christ's work (v. 2); they bind themselves to keep the whole Law (v. 3); they leave Christianity and join Judaism (vs. 4-6).

4. An Urgent Appeal (vs. 7-12)

Practical Lessons

- 1) All who begin the Christian life well do not continue well or end well.
- 2) True Christians obey the Word of God (John 8:31; James 1:22).
- 3) The cross of Christ is offensive to people who don't know God (1 Corinthians 1:18-24).
- 4) Everyone has someone or something that they're trusting to gain acceptance with God.