



GALATIANS *free*

## Galatians 5:1-15

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>2</sup> Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. <sup>3</sup> I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. <sup>4</sup> You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. <sup>5</sup> For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. <sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

<sup>7</sup> You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? <sup>8</sup> This persuasion is not from him who calls you. <sup>9</sup> A little leaven leavens the whole lump. <sup>10</sup> I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. <sup>11</sup> But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. <sup>12</sup> I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



*free*



# Freedom

5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

- It has to feel “too good to be true”
- It will sometimes make you uncomfortable
- It’s about a Free, Safe, Secure Relationship with God
  - It will ultimately bring God glory

# Freed From

<sup>2</sup> Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. <sup>3</sup> I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that **he is obligated to keep the whole law...**

<sup>9</sup> A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

## Performance-based oppressive religion

*You can't do  
anything to make  
God love you any  
more...or any less.*

## Fear

*Hebrews 13:6  
"The Lord is my  
helper; I will not  
fear; what can man  
do to me?"*

## Self-Obsession

*Devastation when  
you fail;  
Arrogance when  
you succeed.*

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# Freed From

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<sup>9</sup> **A little leaven leavens the whole lump.**

If you add anything to Jesus,  
then you fully subtract Jesus  
and must keep 100% of the law.  
It's either/or. All or nothing.

*Jesus can either carry  
your full weight, or none  
at all. He hasn't offered  
to carry part of you.*

*free*



# Freed By

<sup>5</sup> For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. <sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

## In Christ

*John 8:36*

*So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.*

## Through the Spirit

*Genesis 2:7*

*the Lord God...  
breathed into his nostrils the breath of life*

## By Faith

*Ephesians 2:8*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God...*



*C. S. Lewis*

*The*  
GREAT  
DIVORCE  
—

**“I cannot kill it against your will. It is impossible. Have I your permission?...”**

**“Blast you! Go on can’t you? Get it over. Do what you like,” bellowed the Ghost: but ended, whimpering, “God help me. God help me.”**

**Next moment the Ghost gave a scream of agony such as I never heard on Earth. The Burning One closed his crimson grip on the reptile: twisted it, while it bit and writhed, and then flung it, broken backed, on the turf.**

# Freed For

<sup>5</sup> For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the *hope of righteousness*.

## Active Righteousness:

A Right Relationship  
with God that I  
**ACHIEVE**

## Passive Righteousness:

A Right Relationship  
with God that I  
**RECEIVE**

*I seek not active or working righteousness, for if I had it, I could not trust it, neither dare I set it against the judgment of God. Then I abandon myself from all active righteousness, both of my own and of God's law, and embrace only that passive righteousness, which is the righteousness of grace, mercy, and forgiveness of sins. I rest only upon that righteousness, which is the righteousness of Christ and the Holy Spirit. - Martin Luther*

# Freed For

## Love Inward

5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; *stand firm* therefore, and *do not submit* again to a yoke of slavery.

The voices that tell you that:

- You are a disappointment to Jesus.
- You need to do \_\_\_ and not do \_\_\_ for God to bless.
- You are not enough.

# Freed For

Love Upward

## Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

“Love God, and do as you please.”

Augustine, 500<sub>AD</sub>

# Freed For

Love Outward

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Missional Living

Generosity