

Lesson One

Introduction to the Epistle

THE Life
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Introduction to the Book of Galatians

- The Book Is Actually a Letter
- Points of Debate
 - Which Galatians Did Paul Write To?
 - North Galatia or South Galatia

Introduction to the Book of Galatians (cont.)

- When Did Paul Write the Letter?
 - Early Date: 49 AD—Shortly after his first missionary journey
 - Late Date: 65 AD—In prison near the end of his life

Introduction to the Book of Galatians (cont.)

- **Outline of Galatians**
 - The Defense – Chapters 1 & 2
 - Paul corrects an error while establishing the importance of his message and his credibility as an apostle of Christ.
 - The Explanation – Chapters 3 & 4
 - Paul outlines his message in greater detail.

Introduction to the Book of Galatians (cont.)

- **Outline of Galatians**
 - The Application – Chapters 5 & 6
 - Paul demonstrates how his message should change his readers.

The Context of Galatians

- 31 AD – The Martyrdom of Stephen (Acts 7:54–59)
- 32 AD – Paul's Conversion on the Road to Damascus (Gal. 1:16–17)

The Context of Galatians (Cont.)

- **32–35 AD – Paul in Damascus and Arabia (Gal. 1:17)**
- **35 AD – First Trip to Jerusalem (Gal. 1:18–19)**

The Context of Galatians (Cont.)

- **35–46 AD – Paul Travels Through Cilicia to Syria and Antioch (Gal. 1:21–22)**
- **46 AD – Second Trip to Jerusalem with Famine Relief (Gal. 2:1–10)**

The Context of Galatians (Cont.)

- **46–49 AD – Paul’s First Missionary Journey (Acts 13–14)**
- **49 AD – The Writing of Galatians**

The Context of Galatians (Cont.)

- **50 AD – The Jerusalem Council
(Acts 15)**
- **50–52 AD – Paul’s Second
Missionary Journey
(Acts 15:36–18:22)**
- **53–58 AD – Paul’s Third Missionary
Journey (Acts 18:23–21:15)**

The Context of Galatians (Cont.)

- **60 AD – Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem (Acts 21)**
- **67 AD – The Traditional Date of Paul's Death**

The Theme of Galatians

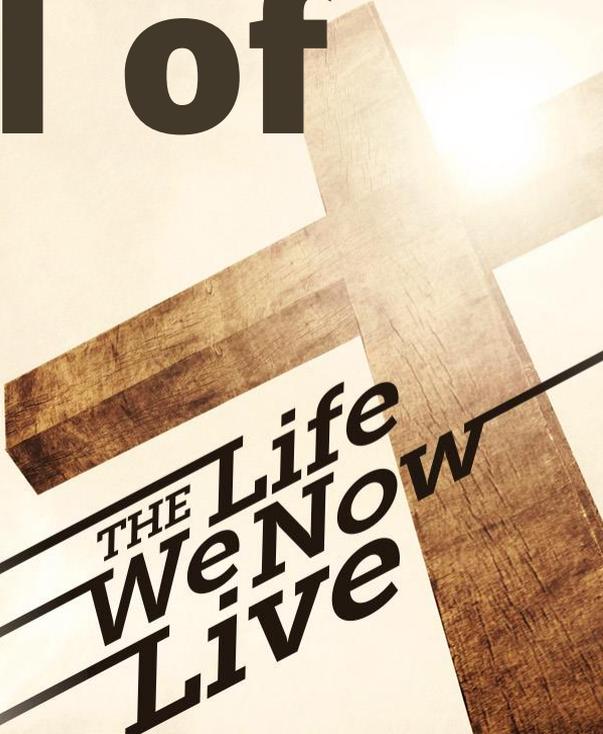
**Only by God's grace do we enter
and live the Christian life.**



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Lesson Two

One Gospel of Grace



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The Definition of Grace

**Grace is the goodness of God
acting in a person's life.**

Paul's Greeting Introduces Grace (1:1–5)

- Grace in Paul's Calling (v. 1)
 - A Call Not of Human Origin
 - A Call Through Jesus Christ and the Father
 - Paul was an apostle only by the grace of God.

Paul's Greeting Introduces Grace (Cont.)

- **Grace in Paul's Greeting (vv. 2–3)**
 - The Galatians Are Brothers in Christ (v. 2)
 - The gospel binds people together across ethnic boundaries.
 - The Galatians Are Blessed in Christ (v. 3)
 - As Christians, we have grace and peace in God.

Paul's Greeting Introduces Grace (Cont.)

- Grace in Christ's Work (vv. 4–5)
 - Christ, by Grace, Saves Us from Sin
 - Christ, by Grace, Delivers Us from This Evil Age

Paul's Greeting Introduces Grace (Cont.)

- Two Extreme Responses:
 - “I Don't Need to Be Delivered from This Evil Age.”
 - “Christ Gave Me the Chance to Deliver Myself from This Evil Age.”
- Christ, by Grace, Works God's Will for His Glory

An Attack on the Gospel of Grace (vv. 6–9)

- False Teachers Try to Turn Us from the Gospel's Power (v. 6)
 - These Two Gospels Cannot Coexist
 - To believe one, we must desert (*metatithemi*, v. 6) the other.

An Attack on the Gospel of Grace (vv. 6–9) (Cont.)

- These Two Gospels Are Fundamentally Different
 - Verse 6 heteros—Another of a different type
 - Verse 7 allos—Another of the same type

An Attack on the Gospel of Grace (vv. 6–9) (Cont.)

- False Teachers Try to Unsettle Us from the Gospel's Message (v. 7)
 - The Gospel of Works Troubles True Believers
 - The Gospel of Works Perverts the True Gospel

An Attack on the Gospel of Grace (vv. 6–9) (Cont.)

- False Teachers Will Be Judged for Mistreating the Gospel (vv. 8–9)
 - The Judgment is Extreme
 - The Judgment Is Indiscriminate
 - The Judgment Is Certain



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Lesson Three

The Gospel from God



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Overview of Galatians

1 & 2

- The Gospel's Message Is Not of Human Invention (1:11–24)
- The Gospel's Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (2:1–10)
- The Messengers of the Gospel Are Not Above the Message (2:11–21)

The Gospel's Divine Origin (1:11–12)

- The Gospel Does Not Come from Mankind (vv. 11–12a)
 - Paul Was Not Given the Gospel by People
 - Paul Was Not Taught the Gospel by People
- The Gospel Is a Revelation of Jesus Christ (v. 12b)

Paul's Testimony Displays the Gospel's Divine Nature (vv. 13–17)

- **Before His Salvation, Paul's Religion Was Led by Human Effort (vv. 13–14)**
 - His Religion Stood on Human Tradition
 - His Zeal Grew from Human Labor

Paul's Testimony (Cont.)

- Paul's Salvation Came by Grace (vv. 15–16a)
 - By Grace, God Watched Over Both of Paul's Births
 - By Grace, God Revealed the Son in Paul
 - The Revelation of Paul's Changed Life
 - The Revelation of Paul's Changed Message

Paul's Testimony (Cont.)

- Paul's Message Came by Grace, Not Human Imagination (vv. 16b–17)
 - Paul Didn't Learn a Human Version of the Gospel
 - We do not find the gospel's authority in the person who teaches it. The gospel's power is inherent, derived from Christ alone.

Paul's Testimony (Cont.)

- Paul Made Time to Learn from Christ
 - Christ somehow taught Paul the gospel of grace during his time in Arabia.

Paul's Ministry Displays the Gospel's Divine Nature (vv. 18–24)

- His Ministry Was Accepted by
Other Believers (vv. 18–20)
 - Paul met with church leaders in
Jerusalem, establishing unity there
with his brothers and sisters in Christ.

Paul's Ministry (Cont.)

- His Ministry Brought Glory to God (vv. 21–24)



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Lesson Four

The Minister and the Gospel: Part 1

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The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (2:1–10)

- We Must Test Any Teaching of the Gospel (vv. 1–5)
 - The Testing Is Commanded by God

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- The Testing Promotes Unity Among True Teachers of the Gospel (vv. 2–3)
 - Unity Grows Through Communication
 - Unity Prevents Unnecessary Division
 - Unity Overcomes External Differences

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- The Testing Defends Against False Gospels (vv. 4–5)
 - False Teachers Will Sneak into the Church (v. 4a)

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- False Teachers Lead to the Bondage of Self-Effort (v. 4b)
- False Teachers Mar the Truth of the Gospel (v. 5)

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- How Do We Test Gospel Teaching?
(vv. 6–10)
 - True Teachers of the Gospel Will Have the Same Message (vv. 6–7)

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- Teachers Should Add Nothing to the Gospel (v. 6)
- Presentation May Differ, But Not the Message (v. 7)

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- True Teachers of the Gospel Will Have the Same Source (v. 8)
 - **The God that worked through Peter also worked through Paul.**

The Gospel Message Is Confirmed Among Believers (Cont.)

- True Teachers of the Gospel Will Have the Same Power (vv. 9–10)
 - True Teachers Teach by God's Grace
 - All Other Sources Lead to Falsehood and Failure
 - Our Shared Power Requires Shared Responsibility



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Lesson Five

The Minister and the Gospel: Part 2

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The Messengers of the Gospel Are Not Above the Message (2:11–21)

- **The Confrontation Between Paul and Peter (vv. 11–14)**
 - Peter Separated from Fellow Believers Because of Fear (vv. 11–12)

The Messengers of the Gospel (Cont.)

- Peter's Example Led Others to Break Unity (v. 13)
- Peter Misrepresented the Gospel (v. 14)
 - His actions implied that the gospel meant less for one group than another.

The Messengers of the Gospel (Cont.)

- The Gospel Proclaims Justification by Grace Through Faith (vv. 15–21)
 - Justification Comes by Grace Through Faith Alone, Not by Works (vv. 15–16)

The Messengers of the Gospel (Cont.)

- Being Religious Is Not Enough (v. 15)
 - **Religion—even if taught in kindness, even if it gives comfort, even if it includes great truth—will not save us from our sin.**

The Messengers of the Gospel (Cont.)

- We Are Justified by Grace Through Faith—Period
 - **God offers salvation to those who believe.**
- No One Will Ever Be Justified by Works
 - **We cannot be saved through the Law, because we've all broken it.**

The Messengers of the Gospel (Cont.)

- Sin's Presence Does Not Contradict the Gospel of Grace (vv. 17–19)
 - When Christians Sin, They Submit to an Old Master
 - We Are Dead to Sin, But We Can Still Long for It

The Messengers of the Gospel (Cont.)

- Our Justification Is Complete in Christ (vv. 20–21)
 - Our Death to Sin Is a Fact (v. 20a)
 - Our Death to Sin Allowed Us Life in Christ (v. 20b)
 - Our Life Is Lived Only by Faith (v. 20c)
 - All Other Ways Ignore True Grace (v. 21)



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Lesson Six

Grace by Faith



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Five Arguments for Faith (3:1–6)

- **An Argument from Christ (v. 1)**
 - Does this teaching acknowledge Christ's sacrifice?

Five Arguments for Faith (Cont.)

- An Argument from Greater to Lesser (vv. 2–3)
 - If we can trust God to save us through faith, we can live in faith in Him now. He will grow us, mold us, and perfect us by His grace.

Five Arguments for Faith (Cont.)

- An Argument from Experience
(v. 4)
 - Do we struggle and suffer in this life for our glory, or for God's?

Five Arguments for Faith (Cont.)

- An Argument from Paul's Ministry (v. 5)
 - Did Paul minister in his own strength, or in dependence on God?

Five Arguments for Faith (Cont.)

- An Argument from History (v. 6)
 - Abraham was justified by faith, not works. If it was good enough for him, it's good enough for us.

Abraham's Children of Faith (3:7–10)

- God Planned to Justify Us All by Faith (vv. 7–8)
- God Planned to Bless Us All Through Faith (vv. 8b–9)
- The Law Was Never the Final Plan (v. 10)

How Then Can We Be Saved? (3:11–14)

- Only Two Options (vv. 11–12)
 - Live by the Law
 - Live by Faith

How Then Can We Be Saved? (Cont.)

- **Salvation by Faith in Jesus Alone (vv. 13–14)**
 - Christ Became Our Curse (v. 13)
 - Christ Fulfilled the Covenant (v. 14a)
 - Christ Gave Us the Promised Spirit (v. 14b)



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Lesson Seven

Why Then the Law?



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The Covenant of God Is Superior to the Law (3:15–18)

- **The Covenant Is Permanent and Unchangeable (vv. 15–16a)**
 - When God made His promise to Abraham, He swore by Himself that He would never break His word (Gen. 22:16).

The Covenant of God Is Superior (Cont.)

- The Covenant Rests in a Person (v. 16b)
 - The blessing would come from a single descendant of Abraham—Jesus Christ. He *is* the promise.

The Covenant of God Is Superior (Cont.)

- The Covenant Came First (vv. 17–18)
 - The promise to Abraham preceded the law by around 430 years, and it would be fulfilled in Christ for all time.

Why Then the Law? (vv. 19–24)

- **A Need Because of Sin (v. 19a)**
 - The Law served as a hedge against our sinful nature (Rom. 7:7–12).
- **A Need Until the Coming Promise (vv. 19b–20)**
 - The Law served as a test for the coming Messiah—only He could fulfill it.

Why Then the Law? (Cont.)

- A Need for Faith (vv. 21–24)
 - The Law Did Not Bring Righteousness (v. 21)
 - The Law Reveals Our Need of the Promise by Faith (v. 22)
 - The Law Instructs Us in Faith (vv. 23–24)

What Happens to the Law Now? (vv. 25–29)

- The Law Is No Longer Necessary (vv. 25–27)
 - The Law's Purpose Is Accomplished: It Brought Us to Faith (v. 25)
 - We Are Now Liberated Children (v. 26)
 - We Are Now in Christ (v. 27)

What Happens to the Law Now? (Cont.)

- The Law No Longer Divides (v. 28)
 - Faith is possible for all people, regardless of their background.
- We Are Heirs Through Christ (v. 29)
 - We rest in the hope of God's blessing.



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Lesson Eight

Heirs of God, in Christ—Part 1: Our Position

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Our Position as Heirs (4:1-7)

- Before Salvation, We Were in Bondage (vv. 1-3)
 - Historic Example: Children Under a Tutor (vv. 1-2)
 - Our Experience: Sinners in Bondage to the World's Principles (v. 3)

Our Position as Heirs (Cont.)

- **At Salvation, We Were Adopted (vv. 4–5)**
 - God Imposes the Son into Our Lives (v. 4)
 - God placed Christ in our life at exactly the right time.
 - God's Son Redeems Us (v. 5a)
 - Jesus brought us out from under the Law to build us up for His own purposes.

Our Position as Heirs (Cont.)

- God Made Us His Children (v. 5b)
 - God gave us all the rights and privileges He thought appropriate for the heirs to His kingdom.

Our Position as Heirs (Cont.)

- **Since Salvation, We Have Our Inheritance (vv. 6–7)**
 - We Receive the Holy Spirit (v. 6)
 - We Begin a Close Relationship with God (v. 6b)
 - We Are Heirs of God (v. 7)



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Lesson Nine

Heirs of God, in Christ—Part 2: The Threat

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The Threat to Our Position in Christ (4:8–20)

- **Turning Back to the Principles of This World (vv. 8–11)**
 - We Can Serve This World's Gods (v. 8)
 - We Can Conform to This World's Principles (v. 9)
 - We Can Depend on Externals (vv. 10–11)

The Threat to Our Position in Christ (Cont.)

- **Turning Away from God's Message (vv. 12–18)**
 - We Turn When We Lose Our Desire for Truth
 - At First, the Galatians Were Thankful for the Truth (vv. 12–15)
 - Then They No Longer Wanted the Truth (v. 16)

The Threat to Our Position in Christ (Cont.)

- We Turn When We Listen to False Teachers (vv. 17–18)
 - The Goal of False Teachers Is to Gather a Following (v. 17)
 - False Teachers Stir People Up About the Wrong Things (v. 18)

The Threat to Our Position in Christ (Cont.)

- Protection from the Threat (vv. 18–20)
 - Keep a focused zeal (v. 18)
 - Follow only those who push us toward godliness (vv. 19–20)



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Lesson Ten

The Allegory of Two Children

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Law vs. Liberty (4:21–30)

- **Their Mothers (v. 22)**
 - Ishmael: Born to a Slave, Hagar
 - Isaac: Born to Abraham's Wife, Sarah
- **Their Births (v. 23)**
 - Ishmael: Born by the Flesh
 - Isaac: Born by Faith in God's Promise

Law vs. Liberty (Cont.)

- **Their Covenants (vv. 24–27)**
 - Hagar: The Covenant of Sinai, Bound by the Law
 - Paul compares the slavery of Hagar to the slavery we once had to the Law, or that the Jews had to the Romans.

Law vs. Liberty (Cont.)

- Sarah: The Covenant of New Jerusalem, Promised Above
 - The alternative is the true law of the New Jerusalem, the place that Christ prepares for us now.

Law vs. Liberty (Cont.)

- **The Promises (v. 28)**
 - Ishmael: "God Hears"
 - God took care of Hagar and Ishmael even when no one else cared for them. But this wasn't His original promise.
 - Isaac: "Laughter"
 - Isaac represented the sheer ludicrousness of God's grace—and the joy we can have through it.

Law vs. Liberty (Cont.)

- Their Treatment (v. 29)
 - Ishmael: The Persecutor
 - Isaac: The Persecuted
- Their Fate (v. 30)

Implications of the Allegory

- **Salvation Requires a Spiritual Birth**
 - The Natural Cannot Receive the Divine (1 Cor. 2:14)
 - We Must Be Born Spiritually to Enter God's Family

Implications of the Allegory (Cont.)

- Two Covenants, But Only One Leads to Salvation
- The Children of the World and the Children of Promise Will Conflict

Implications of the Allegory (Cont.)

- **We Are Children of Promise, Not Children of Bondage**



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Lesson Eleven

Liberty to Love: Part 1

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The Command to Abide in Liberty (5:1)

- **The Reasons for the Command**
 - Because Persecution May Tempt Us to Give Up Liberty
 - So We Do Not Lose the Blessings of Living by Faith
- **The Parts of the Command**
 - Positive: Stand Fast
 - Negative: Don't Return to Slavery

The Command to Abide in Liberty (Cont.)

- **Contrasting Liberty and Bondage**
 - We have left behind the yoke of sin and obligation—in favor of the yoke of Christ, which is easy, and His burden, which is light (Matt. 11:28–29).

The Contrast of Two Lives (vv. 2–6)

- Law Living (vv. 2–4)
 - The Ritual Means Nothing in Christ (v. 2)
 - The Holy Spirit marks us as Christians—not physical rituals like circumcision.

The Contrast of Two Lives (Cont.)

- Bondage to One Ritual Is Bondage to the Whole Law (v. 3)
 - To depend on one act is just as wrong as depending on the entire Law.
- In Bondage, Grace Becomes Useless (v. 4)
 - When we live under the Law, we no longer take advantage of God's grace.

The Contrast of Two Lives (Cont.)

- **Faith Living (vv. 5–6)**
 - Empowered by the Spirit (v. 5a)
 - Waiting in Expectation (v. 5b)
 - The Object of Our Expectation Is Righteousness
 - The Means of Our Expectation Is Faith
 - Working Through Love (v. 6)



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Lesson Twelve

Liberty to Love: Part 2

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Dealing with the Problem (5:7–12)

- Recognize the Opposition (vv. 7–9)
 - False Teaching Can Knock Us Off Track (v. 7)
 - *Anakupto* (Gr.)—a runner cutting off another during a race.
 - False Teaching Persuades Apart from God's Word (v. 8)
 - The doctrine appeals to our flesh, not our connection to God and His truth.

Dealing with the Problem (Cont.)

- False Teaching Always Spreads (v. 9)
 - Dependence on one ritual leads to dependence on others.

Dealing with the Problem (Cont.)

- **The Solution (vv. 10–12)**
 - Have Confidence in God's Work
 - Know That the Cross Brings Offense
 - Remove the False Teachers

The Nature of Our Liberty (vv. 13–15)

- Our Liberty Is a True Liberty (v. 13a)
 - Our liberty is perfect, and it will last forever. Nothing can separate us from the love of God (Rom. 8:35–39).

The Nature of Our Liberty (Cont.)

- We Can Abuse Our Liberty
(v. 13b)
 - We can still feed our sinful desires, even though the Spirit wars against them.

The Nature of Our Liberty (Cont.)

- Our Liberty Allows Us to Love
(vv. 14–15)
 - To Love Is to Serve
 - To Love Is to Fulfill the Whole Law
 - Love Does Not Destroy



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Lesson Thirteen

The Conflict of the Believer

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A Summary of the Conflict (5:16–18)

- **We Win by Walking with the Spirit
(v. 16a)**
- **When We Walk the Spirit, We Do Not Fulfill the Desires of the Flesh (v. 16b)**

A Summary of the Conflict (Cont.)

- **The Flesh and the Spirit Hold Opposing Desires (v. 17)**
- **If the Spirit Leads Us, We Are Not Under the Law (v. 18)**

The Expression of the Conflict (vv. 19–23)

- The Works of the Flesh (vv. 19–21)
 - Sexual Sins (v. 19b)
 - Adultery—A violation of the marriage relationship
 - Fornication—From *porneia*; all forms of illicit sexual relationships

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Uncleaness—Moral impurity in thought, word, and action
- Lasciviousness—Unbridled lusts; usually expressed openly, without shame.

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Religious Sins (v. 20a)
 - Idolatry—Worship of false gods
 - Witchcraft—From *pharmacia*; seeking supernatural power or experiences outside of God

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Social Sins (vv. 20–21a)
 - Hatred—Actually plural; a heart filled with hatreds against people, circumstances, authorities, or anything else.
 - Variance—Discord created by angry thoughts toward others
 - Emulations—Intense jealousy; from the Greek word *zealos*, from which we get zeal

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Wrath—Outbursts of temper that result from smoldering anger or jealousy
- Strife—Selfish ambition; used also to describe someone campaigning for public office
- Seditious—Rebellion against authority for personal gain
- Heresies—Forming groups in order to cause division

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Envyings—Desire for anything that belongs to someone else
- Murders—Unlawfully taking the life of another person

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Recreational Sins (v. 21a)
 - Drunkenness—Intoxication; allowing a substance, specifically alcohol, to take control of our mind or body
 - Revelings—Sinful activity that occurs while we are drunk or celebrating
- Anything Else That Has No Place in God's Kingdom (v. 21b)

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- The Fruit of the Spirit (vv. 22–23)
 - The Significance of the Word Fruit
 - The Fruit Is a Natural Result of the Spirit's Work
 - The Fruit Is Singular; It Stems from One Source

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- The Manifestation of the Fruit (vv. 22–23)
 - Love—Self-sacrificing care and service to others
 - Joy—Deep, abiding, inner rejoicing with God
 - Peace—Inner quiet in the face of any circumstance, as an expression of trust in God

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Longsuffering—Patience; forbearance despite provocation
- Gentleness—Kindness to others
- Goodness—Inner uprightness, as well as genuine compassion for those in need

The Expression of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Faith—Trust in the faithfulness of God and reflecting that to others.
- Meekness—Control of our abilities for the service of God, not ourselves
- Temperance—Discipline and self-control; moderation in pleasure and activity

The Resolution of the Conflict (vv. 24–26)

- Resolution Is Only Possible for Those in Christ (v. 24a)
- Resolution Required the Crucifixion of the Flesh (v. 24)
 - We Have Crucified Its Passions
 - We Have Crucified Its Desires

The Resolution of the Conflict (Cont.)

- Resolution Comes By Walking in Step with the Spirit (v. 25)
- Resolution Is Not Possible If We Seek Self-Glory (v. 26)
 - Seeking Glory Provokes Those Who Have Less
 - Seeking Glory Stirs Envy Toward Those Who Have More



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Lesson Fourteen

Responding in the Spirit

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Our Responsibility to Other Believers (6:1–5)

- We Should Restore Those Who Struggle in the Flesh (v. 1)
 - God Makes the Sin Known
 - The Spiritual Have an Obligation to Help

Our Responsibility to Other Believers (Cont.)

- We Should Address Sin in the Right Manner
 - Sin Must Be Addressed Gently
 - Sin Must Be Addressed Cautiously

Our Responsibility to Other Believers (Cont.)

- We Should Help Carry the Burden of the Weak (vv. 2–3)
 - We Should Help Those in Heavy Circumstances (v. 2a)
 - These Are Not Necessarily Sin
 - These Include Hardships, Sorrows, and Other Trials

Our Responsibility to Other Believers (Cont.)

- We Fulfill the Law of Christ by Helping Other Believers (v. 2b)
- We Should Not Feel Superior When Helping Others (v. 3)

Our Responsibility to Other Believers (Cont.)

- We Must Judge Ourselves Before God (vv. 4–5)
 - We Must Guard Against Our Own Flesh
 - We Must Judge Ourselves by God's Standard, Not Others'
 - Our Burden Is to Follow Christ

Our Responsibility to Those That Teach Us the Word (vv. 6–9)

- **We Should Give Back to Those
Who Teach Us (v. 6)**

Our Responsibility to Those That Teach (Cont.)

- God Blesses Us So That We Can Give (vv. 7–8)
 - The Flesh Is Unwilling to Give
 - The Spirit Shares the Blessings of God

Our Responsibility to All People (vv. 9–10)

- We Must Beware of Growing Weary (v. 9)
 - We Can Become Weary, Even When Doing Good
 - We Must Remember the Harvest
 - We Must Not Faint

Our Responsibility to All People (Cont.)

- **We Must Show Grace to All (v. 10)**
 - God Gives Us the Opportunity and the Means
 - God supplies us with ways to serve others, as well as the desire and strength to do so.

Our Responsibility to All People (Cont.)

- God Does Not Limit This Responsibility
 - To truly reflect God's character, we must show grace regardless of a person's background.
- God Gives Us a Special Focus
 - God created the church as a special community for fellowship and growth.



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Lesson Fifteen

A Final Warning and a Farewell

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A Warning About Those That Boast in the Flesh (6:12–13)

- Their Goal Is to Look Good (v. 12)
- They Conform to Avoid Persecution (v. 12)
- They Boast in Their Influence Over Others (v. 13b)

A Warning About Those That Boast (Cont.)

- An Encouragement to Glory in Christ (vv. 14–17)
 - Our Only Glory Is in the Cross of Christ (vv. 14–15)
 - Christ Destroys the World's Power Over Us (v. 14a)

A Warning About Those That Boast (Cont.)

- Christ Destroys Our Relationship to the World (v. 14b)
- Christ Makes Us New (v. 15)

A Warning About Those That Boast (Cont.)

- The Blessings of Glorifying in Christ:
Peace and Mercy (v. 16)
- Paul's Conclusion (v. 17)
 - Paul's Argument Settles the Whole Matter
 - Paul Carried Visible Evidence That He Followed Christ

A Benediction (v. 18)

- The Christian Life Is All of Grace
- The Christian Life Is Predominately Spiritual
- All Believers Are Brethren



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