

Sermon Notes:

March 10, 2024

Redemption Life Fellowship

Galatians 6:16-18, Grace and Peace

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Galatians 6:16-18 ESV

"16 And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. 17 From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen."

What is the rule?

"And as for all who walk by this rule."

The apostle Paul in chapter 6:14 makes the statement *"Be it far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ"* Now look at this *"by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world,"* and verse number 15 goes on to say this.

"Neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but what counts is the new creation!"

Matthew Henry Commentary on Galatians:

"...neither circumcision availed anything nor uncircumcision, as to men's acceptance with God, but a new creature. Here he instructs us both wherein real religion does not and wherein it does consist. It does not consist in circumcision or uncircumcision, in our being in this or the other denomination of Christians; but it consists in our being new creatures; not in having a new name, or putting on a new face, but in our being renewed in the spirit of our minds and having Christ formed in us: this is of the greatest account with God, and so it was with the apostle."

Big Idea:

Walking by this rule is not a rule of performance or religion. It's actually not a rule...It's a remembrance to yield to.

PEACE (V16): This is resting or being settled. Settled in the understanding that all is right between you and Jesus.

- There is peace in settling the fact in our minds that the work and effort are done and we can rest because all is settled.

- There is peace in the expulsion of self-reliance. There's peace in knowing the work is done.

MERCY (V16): Mercy is compassion.

Embrace the Truth (v17)

Paul says I have endured on my body the marks of Jesus. "Marks" here means "to stick", "recognition of ownership", and a "scar of service". The Greek word is actually "stigma". That is where we get our word stigma. Paul was stigmatized for the Gospel. He had the marks of Jesus. This was not figurative but he literally had been physically tortured for the message of the Gospel and it was at the hands of the Judaizers. It was for preaching Jesus and only Jesus. It was for shaking off the weight of the demands of the Law and saying Jesus fulfilled the law and became the once and for all sacrifice so that we would not have to do so.

[Phi 3:7-11 ESV]

"7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share in the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead."

Grace Be With You (V18):

Grace is:

1)The Favor and Pleasure of God given to an individual who within themselves could not do anything to attain it. 2) God's Riches At Christ's Expense. 3)God bending or stooping down in condescending favor to rescue those who could not rescue themselves. 4)"Grace is the absolutely free expression of the love of God finding its only motive in the bounty and

benevolence of God".Spiro Zoteates 5)Grace is a favor done without expectation of return

We need to experience:

- Grace In Our Relationships
- Grace to Forgive Wrongs That Are Done To Us
- Grace to Endure Hardships
- Grace to Face Persecution

Questions:

1. What is keeping me from enjoying the peace that comes from resting in the cross of Jesus and the new life found in him?
2. Is there someone who I need to extend grace and forgiveness to based off of what Jesus has done for me?
3. When it comes to engaging the world and the possibility of persecution...Am I a "Teller of Morality" or a "Messenger of Grace and Peace".
4. What would it look like if we were to take the peace, mercy and grace we have received and allow it to touch the people in our circles of influence?
5. How drastically would our lives change if we were able to grasp a dependence on Jesus that removes any self-reliance, self-protection, self- worth,and performance, and fully rested in the Gospel of Jesus because the work is done. That brings peace!!