



Galatians Chapter 5

Before we jump right in and begin to read chapter 5 of the book of Galatians, it's important that we recap what we've already learned from the first 4 chapters of the book of Galatians.

If someone were to simply open their Bible and begin to read the 5th chapter of the book of Galatians with out knowing and understanding the context upon which it was written and who the people were that Paul was speaking to, and who the “Circumcision Group” was or what meeting that Paul had just came from in Jerusalem with James in Acts chapter 15, or the decree that James had just put fourth in Acts chapter 15, or how this all ties into the attack that the church of Galatia was under... there would simply be no way that the reader could possibly understand what we find the Apostle Paul saying in his letter to the church at Galatia in chapter 5.

If we did not already know that Paul was at odds with this “Circumcision Group” that was following Paul around trying to force his new converts into being circumcised, telling them that circumcision is what saved them.

If we did not already know that circumcision does not lead to faith, but it is faith that leads us to circumcision. If we did not already know that James the very brother of Yahshua our Messiah who was the head of the Jerusalem Council had already made a judgment for circumcision and not against it in chapters 15 and 16 of the book of Acts.

If we did not already know that Paul himself had circumcised Timothy because they were delivering the decree from James to all of the churches that was for circumcision, and not against it.. in Acts chapter 16 verse 4.

If we did not already know that Paul himself says that anyone who has their mind set on the flesh is hostile to God, because the flesh does not submit to Gods law and so those who are in the flesh cannot please God in Romans 8:6 through 8

If we did not already know that Paul already asked that all important question... “do we overthrow the law by our faith” in Romans 3:31.. and he answers that all encompassing question in Romans 3:31 when he says three times... “By no means! On the Contrary! We uphold the law!”. Clearly he didn't want anyone to be confused about the answer to that all encompassing question... he wanted them to understand that we do not overthrow the law of

God by our faith.

If we did not already know what Paul had already said in Romans 2:13 when he said “it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.

If we did not already know what Paul had said in Romans 7 verse 12 when he said that the law is Holy, and the commandment is holy, and righteous and good!

If we did not already know what Paul had already said in Romans chapter 6 verses 1 and 2 when he said that “we are not to sin so that grace may abound, he said by no means.. how can we who died to sin (which is the transgression of the law by the way) still live in it”.

If we did not already know that Paul never taught against the law of God according to James in the book of Acts chapter twenty one. In fact... let us take a look at Acts chapter 21 verses 18 through 24 before we begin to read Galatians chapter 5 so that we can gain an important perspective on exactly what Paul did and did not teach concerning circumcision and the law of God.

Act 21:18 On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

Act 21:19 After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

Act 21:20 And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law,

Act 21:21 and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.

Act 21:22 What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come.

Act 21:23 Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow;

Act 21:24 take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law.

So... it's pretty clear here that according to James and all the elders (Acts 21:18) Paul lives in observance of the law (Acts 21:24). And once again this is according to scripture... not according to mans doctrine, or mans interpretation, or mans theological understanding... this is what it says according to scripture.. that Paul always lived in observance of the law.

So if we did not know what Paul had said through out his writings about the law of God and his Torah, and if we did not know that Paul always lived in observance to Gods laws and walked with in his Torah.. there would be no way that we would be able to understand what Paul is

saying in the book of Galatians chapter 5.

Now before we even look at Galatians chapter 5 I want to re-affirm the warning that Peter gives about the writings of the Apostle Paul in 2nd Peter 3:16 so lets refresh ourselves with that important warning before we read the writings of Paul in Galatians chapter 5.

2Pe 3:15 And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

2Pe 3:16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

2Pe 3:17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.

So now that we know that Paul always lived in observance to the law of God and we also know that his writings are hard to understand and that the ignorant and the unstable are going to twist the writings of the Apostle Paul to their own destruction, and we've been warned not to let "lawless" people lead us astray... lets now begin to read the 5th Chapter of the book of Galatians.

Understanding Galatians Chapter 5:

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

Gal 5:2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.

Gal 5:3 I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.

Gal 5:4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

Gal 5:5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

So what does Paul warn us about in the first verse of chapter 5? He warns the church at Galatia not to submit again... (notice the word "again") to the yoke of "slavery".

So we need to identify what "slavery" Paul is talking about here don't we. What "slavery" is it that Paul doesn't want the Church at Galatia to fall back into "again"?

Many of today's Christian academics will proudly proclaim that Paul is talking about the slavery of Gods law because it is bondage, and what they call a curse. This comes once again from cherry picking scripture out of the Word of God with out understanding the context of that scripture, so that we can properly understand what that scripture actually says.

But I would submit to you that no where in the Word of God is Gods law ever called.. “slavery”. In fact Paul says that we uphold the law in Romans 3:31, and he calls it holy and righteous, and good in Romans 7:12, he says it's not just the hearers of the law but the doers of the law that will be justified before God in Romans chapter 2 verse 13.. so how then can anyone say that Gods law is slavery?

But thatch what many will teach. Once again not found in scripture anywhere.

The law comes with a curse if you break it. According to scripture sin is the “transgression of the law” and the wages of “sin” is death, but our Messiah came to remove the curse of the law which is “death”.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

You see when Paul talks about the curse of the law he's talking about the penalty for breaking the law.. not the law itself, but rather it's curse. For more information on the curse of the law you can visit Deuteronomy chapter 30 verses 14 through 20:

Deu 30:14 But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

Deu 30:15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

Deu 30:16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

Deu 30:17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,

Deu 30:18 I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,

Deu 30:20 loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

For those of us who have faith.. the curse has been taken away, the penalty for transgressing the

law has been paid once and for all by our Messiah, but this does not in any way shape or form negate the commandments of our Father.

In fact we're told that the law of God is perfect according to James the brother of Yahshua:

Jas 1:25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

And I would submit to you my friends that James is simply repeating what David had already said in Psalms 19 verses 7 through 11:

Psa 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

Psa 19:8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

Psa 19:9 the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

Psa 19:10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Psa 19:11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

So knowing all of this.. knowing what Paul himself was teaching and that he always lived in observance to the law, knowing that James says the law is perfect, knowing that David said the law is perfect, knowing that even Paul himself calls the law holy, and righteousness and good and that only the doers of the law will be justified before the God..

How.. are we now supposed to believe that the law is slavery?

I would submit to you my friends.. that the answer to that question is that we can not believe that his law is the “slavery” that Paul is talking about here in Galatians.. not according to Gods Word it's not.

So what “slavery” is Paul talking about? Once again my friends he's talking about the “Oral Laws” of the Pharisees and their hybrid law that they themselves had created to give themselves power and authority over the people. He's talking about Pagan slavery and the keeping of other times of the year and new moons, and pagan Sabbaths created, and fabricated by men. He's talking about the false religion of both the Pharisees who ran the Synagogues and the Pagans who were still worshiping idols, stars, moons, and statues. He's talking about the slavery.. of false religion that had taken them captive.

In a nut shell, he's talking about any false religion other than the Gospel message of our Messiah.

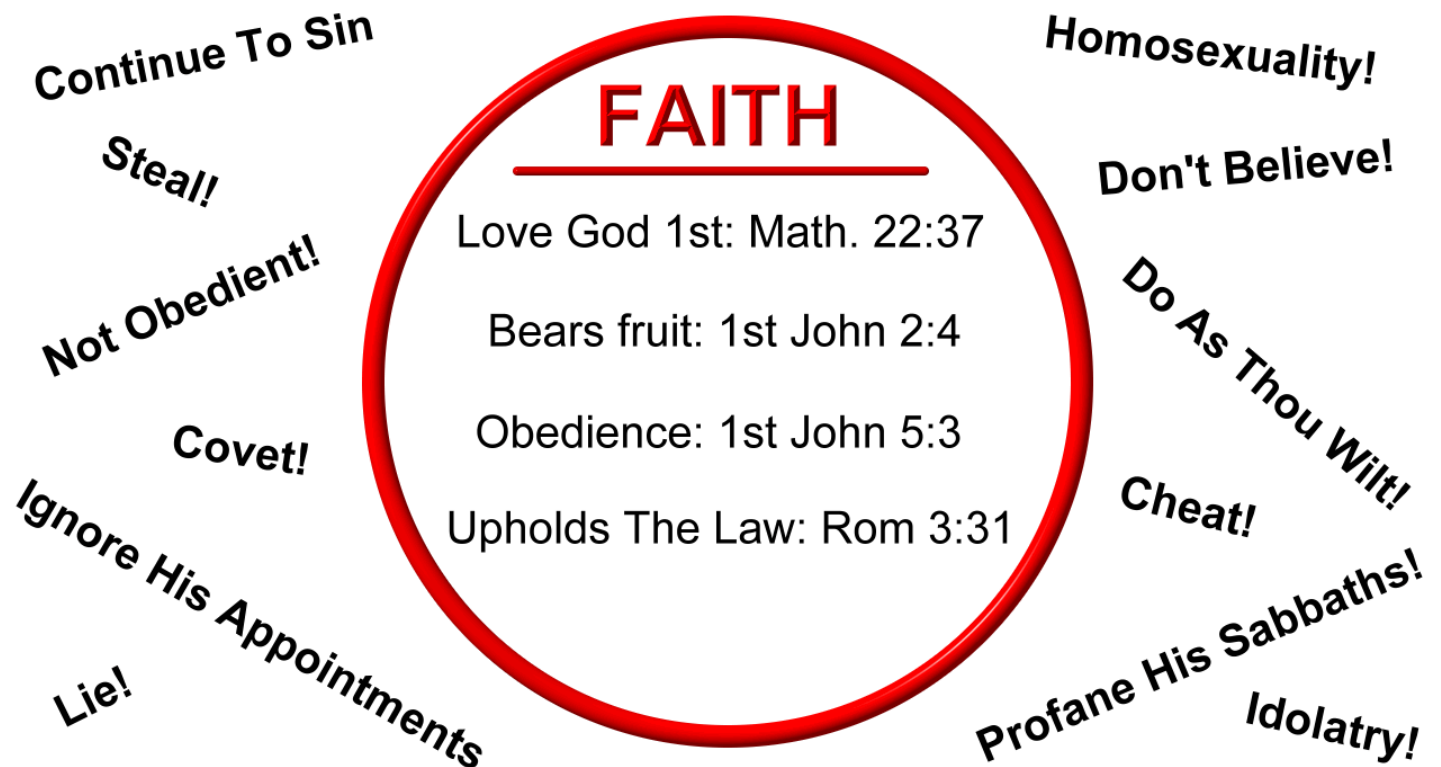
Slavery my friends is thinking that circumcision saves you. It does not. And once again I always like to use the analogy of Baptism because most Christians understand Baptism but they don't understand circumcision even though they are both commandments from our Father.

Circumcision does not save you any more than Baptism saves you. The only thing that can save us is the grace of God. Oh yea... and that other thing... called "faith". The problem is that most Christians today have no idea how to define "faith". What is "faith" exactly according to scripture? Paul says that there is an "obedience" to faith in the first chapter of the book of Romans verse 5:

*Rom 1:5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about **the obedience of faith** for the sake of his name among all the nations,*

And why do we need to bring about the "obedience of faith"? For HIS NAMES SAKE AMONG ALL THE NATIONS.. we are to be that light on a hill, we are to live differently than the rest of the world lives.. according to the scripture.

So what then is the "obedience of faith"?



*1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, **when we love God and obey his***

commandments.

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

1Jn 5:4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1Jn 5:5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

1Jn 2:3 And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

1Jn 2:4 Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

There is a lot we need to understand if we're going to understand that first verse of Galatians isn't there? If we don't already know these things we might be found guilty of twisting the writings of Paul to our own destruction just like those lawless people that Peter warns us about in 2nd Peter 3:16.

Lets read Galatians verse 2:

Gal 5:2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.

Wow.. it really seems like Paul is preaching against circumcision doesn't it? And this is where many people miss the mark because they don't already know what Paul has already said about circumcision and the law. But what did we see James and the elders saying in the book of Acts when Paul was accused of this?

Act 21:21 and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.

Think about it for just a moment. Could what Paul was saying here in Galatians chapter 5 verse 2 be the very reason why.. so many people thought that Paul was telling them to forsake Moses and not to circumcise their children?

I would submit to you that this is exactly why so many people jumped to the conclusion that Paul was teaching them to forsake Moses and not to circumcise their children.

So if Paul was not teaching them to forsake Moses and he was not teaching them not to circumcise their children then what is Paul saying in Galatians chapter 5 verse 2?

Paul is simply saying that if you are relying on circumcision to save you, with out faith in Yahshua as the Messiah who is the Son of God... if you are relying on circumcision alone with out faith... then the Messiah is going to be of no advantage to you, because you don't have faith in him, and thus.. the curse of the law still remains upon you, because only Yahshua can remove that curse (which is death).

You see we must have faith and believe in him first. What sense is there in being circumcised or being baptized if you don't have faith in him? You see this is the difference between keeping the law by works or keeping the law by faith.

Rom 9:31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.

Rom 9:32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,

You see it's all about how you pursue the law my friends. If you're pursuing the law as though it is based on works then you think that by keeping the law you can earn your way into the gates of his kingdom you're going to wind up lost and with out the covering of his Salvation, and your still going to be living under the curse of the law which means that if you break the law you must pay the penalty which is death.

But if you truly have faith in him and know that there is nothing that you can ever do to earn your way into his kingdom, and that only by his "Grace" are we able to enter into his kingdom.. and your pursuing his laws, his commandments, precepts, and his appointment because you love him.. then and only then are you pursuing the law by faith, and you are no longer living under the curse of the law (which was death). The penalty for breaking the law has been paid for you by your Messiah, who gave his very life as the last sacrificial lamb ever needed to atone for our sin.

You see "faith" and "love" are synonymous in the eyes of our Father. They mean the same thing. If you "love" him then you have "faith" in him, and if you have "faith" in him, this shows him that you "love" him. And what is the Biblical definition of the "love of God" according to his Word?

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

So once again someone from the "Circumcision Group" had entered into the Church at Galatia and was teaching them that "circumcision" is what saved them. This is works separate and apart from faith. This is pursuing the law as if it were based on works... you see the law is not based on works.. but rather it is based on love. You can not put the horse before the cart. Faith leads to

obedience, obedience with out faith, is nothing more than your own works.

Love is the bedrock of the law. It is love that causes us to keep the law which is the “commandments” of God.

I often think at times that it would be better for those of us who understand and know the truth.. to stop calling the “law” the “law”. And that may sound strange to those who are struggling to understand.

You see the “law” really isn't the “law” anymore. You see our Messiah has removed the penalty of the “law”. He was the last sacrifice for sin that a man with faith ever needs. He paid the penalty for sin. He did not abolish the law itself, just like he said he did not come to abolish the law in Matthew 5:17 and 18.

So then.. if the penalty for the “law” has indeed been removed (and we know it has).. then how can it be a “law” any longer?

For example.. if the speed limit on my street is 25 miles per hour and that's the law... and one day a judge in my town says “I'm taking away the penalty of that law” and there is no more penalty for breaking that 25 mile per hour speed limit... then it is no longer a law is it?

Now if the Judge commands that you keep that 25 mile per hour speed limit... what is that? It's simply the commandment of the Judge. But with out a penalty it's not a law... it's just a commandment. So it all boils down to whether or not we respect the Judge enough to keep his commandment. If we love the Judge and the Judge is our father then we're going to obey his commandment and we going to keep that 25 mile per hour speed limit even though there is no penalty for breaking it (other than angering the Judge).

And so it is with Gods “laws”. Gods laws today in reality, are simply his “commandments”. What our Father has done.. is that he has taken away the penalty of the law there by turning the “law” into his commandments. He simply commands us to keep his commandments and we either love him and respect him enough to keep them or we don't.

And with that being said my friends we need to know and understand that we will be judged by our Messiah, lets make no mistake about that. We will be judged as to whether or not we loved him enough to keep his commandments. Lets hear what he told us with his own breath, his own words, and with his own tongue.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Mat 7:22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'

Mat 7:23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

*1Ti 1:8 Now we know that **the law is good, if one uses it lawfully,***

You see he's given each of us the opportunity to choose. If you choose God.. you choose to keep his commandments.. why? Because you love him.

“For this is the love of God.. that we keep his commandments and they are not burdensome to us” (1st John 5:3).

You see his “law” and his “commands” are two very different things, and yet.. they are the same. A “law” comes with a penalty. In order for there to be a “law” it must have a penalty. But a “commandment” is just that. It's a “commandment”. All you need to keep a “commandment” is a reason. What would be the “reason” for us to keep his “commandments”? Love.

We keep his “commandments” because we “love” him, and his commandments are not burdensome.

*Heb 10:16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,**"*

Heb 10:17 then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Lets continue with Galatians 5 verse 3

Gal 5:3 I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.

So in other words if you accept circumcision as the work that saves you.. then you're still “under the law” because you don't have faith in the Messiah. If you have no “faith” in the Messiah then the “death penalty” also known as the “curse” still remains for you.

Remember.. only those who believe in the Messiah have the penalty of the law removed. For those who do not have faith in Yahshua as the Messiah.. you are still pursuing the law by your works.. thinking that you can earn your way into the kingdom.

Paul is not saying don't be circumcised, or not to circumcise your children.. he is simply saying do not accept circumcision as salvation. Many people who have been circumcised are going to hell my friends. And in the end there will be some who have not yet been circumcised that will enter into the kingdom of Heaven.

Why did Paul circumcise Timothy.. but did not circumcise Titus? Because Timothy's heart was

already circumcised and he knew and understood that it was the right thing to do. Titus not there in heart and in faith yet was not yet ready to commit himself and so he was not yet ready.

You see it's all about putting faith.. first, not works first. Whether it be circumcision or baptism it must be done with a contrite heart (also known as a circumcised heart) that has faith in him. Then and only then are circumcision or baptism valid. They are of no effect if done by works thinking that your going to earn your way to Heaven. You can not earn your way in... it is only by the grace of God through faith.. that we get their.

What does he say in Galatians 5 verse 6... listen closely to what he says:

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

Once again my friends... how are you pursuing the law.. are you pursuing it by works or are you pursuing it through the obedience of faith. Are you keeping his commandments so that you can earn your way into his kingdom or.. are you keeping his commandments because you love him and you know it's what he wants you to do? Paul calls it “faith working through love”.

Whether or not you are circumcised means nothing with out faith and the love of God in your heart. Just like being baptized means nothing with out faith and the love of God in your heart.

And this is why we need the Ruach Hakodesh.. the Holy Spirit of God to be upon us.

Joh 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Joh 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Joh 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

Joh 14:17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Joh 14:18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Let me ask you my friends if you're “once saved always saved” and you believe that your “baptism” is what has saved you, and you believe that “Jesus did it all for you at the cross so you don't have to do anything”.. then what do you need his Holy Spirit for?

If this is true then you don't need the Holy Spirit to teach you anything do you because you're not responsible for anything right? You don't need the Ruach Hakodesh of God to remind you of what he said.. because you think Jesus did it all for you so you can now live a “do as thou wilt” religion. You don't need a Holy Spirit help guide you and remind you of what he commanded

because you've thrown out the baby with the bath water.

And yet this is what they teach even though our Messiah says if you're not baptized with both water and the Ruach Hakodesh you will not ever enter the kingdom of Heaven:

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Joh 3:7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

Lets continue with verse 13 of the 5th chapter of Galatians:

Gal 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal 5:8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you.

Gal 5:9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

Gal 5:10 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.

Gal 5:11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed.

Gal 5:12 I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

Gal 5:13 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.

Gal 5:14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Gal 5:15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Gal 5:17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Gal 5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Okay now lets take that last verse, verse 18 and lets see if we can understand what Paul means when he says that "if we're led by the spirit, we're not under the law".

The first thing we need to understand is what does the "Spirit" do? What does scripture say that the "Spirit" does for us?

*Joh 16:13 When **the Spirit of truth** comes, he will guide you into **all the truth**, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.*

And we just read in John 14: 16 through 17?

Joh 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

Joh 14:17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

So this “Spirit of truth” also known as the Ruach Hakodesh, or the “Holy Spirit” will guide us into “all the truth”.

So our next question then becomes what is the biblical definition of “truth”. Instead of letting men assume or attempt to guess what “truth” is.. why don't we let the Bible define the Bible. What is the biblical definition of “truth”?

Psa 119:142 Your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is true.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Now for those of you who do not understand why we need the Ruach Hakodesh or the “Holy Spirit” or do not understand it's value.. all you have to do is read the scripture for yourself my friends. Let me explain something to you that you may have seen but never thought about. Lets take a look at 2nd Timothy 3:16:

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

What “Scripture” do you suppose Timothy was talking about in this verse?

There was no “New Testament” at that time my friends. The “New Testament” was not even in existence at that time. The “New Testament” hadn't even been written yet. The “New Testament” wasn't written until 170 years after the death, burial, and resurrection of our Messiah.

The only scripture that Timothy could have possibly been talking about was the Torah and the Tanakh.. what we now call the “Old Testament”. That was all the scripture that they had at that time.

So in other words what Paul is saying in Galatians chapter 5 verse 18 is that if you are led by the Spirit of truth that leads you to keep the commandments of God.. that you are not under the curse of the written law.

What law is Paul talking about that we are not under exactly?:

Rom 7:25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

So Paul is simply saying that if you are led by the Spirit, that you are not under the “law of sin”. Nor are you under the death penalty of the “written law” because you have the Spirit which means that you have faith in the Messiah.

Listen to what else he says in the next few verses:

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,

Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,

Gal 5:21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Gal 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Gal 5:26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Let me ask you my friends are the things that Paul lists here for the laws of God or against the laws of God? Think about it are sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, all for.. or against the law of God and his Torah? I think you already know the answer to that question.

Once again Paul says in verse 25, “If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit”. Can we keep in step with the Spirit of truth and continue to transgress the laws of God? I think you know the answer to that as well.

The “Spirit of Truth” will lead us to all “Truth” which is biblically defined as.. the “law” also known as the “Commandments” of God or the “Word” of God. And through the Spirit we will be led through the obedience of faith to keep his commandments.. not to earn our Salvation.. but because he has freely offered us his Salvation.

We are saved by the Grace of God through Faith. The key is to understand the definition.. of “Faith”, and to know what the “obedience of faith” is.

1Jn 2:4 Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may

know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Now with all of that my friends.. you may be asking.. why is Paul so hard to understand? Why would God allow his scriptures to be so hard to follow? And I have to admit that I also have asked these questions and as always his Ruach Hakodesh reminded me why the writings of Paul are so hard to understand just as Peter tells us in 2nd Peter 3:16.

Remember my friends.. this Gospel message is not for everyone. Not according to scripture it's not. We must remember why our Messiah himself always spoke in parables:

Mat 13:10 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?"

Mat 13:11 And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

Mat 13:12 For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Mat 13:13 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

Mat 13:14 Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: ""You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive."

Mat 13:15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

Mat 13:16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

Mat 13:17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

And I know how many of you have been programmed to think.. "OH Pastor! God loves EVERYONE"! But that's not scriptural, not according to the word of God he does not love everyone my friends.

Rom 9:13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Rom 9:14 What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means!

Rom 9:15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

Rom 9:16 So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

Psa 5:4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.

Psa 5:5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

Psa 5:6 You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Pro 6:16 There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him:

Pro 6:17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

Pro 6:18 a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil,

Pro 6:19 a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

I want everyone with in the sound of my voice to know that if you have the eyes to see and the ears to hear and understand these things my friends.. know and understand that you have truly been blessed.. because many... never will.

Luk 10:23 Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see!"

Luk 10:24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it."

Luk 10:25 And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

Luk 10:26 He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?"

Luk 10:27 And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

Luk 10:28 And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

Gods laws and his commandments... his "Word" is written in love. They protect us from evil, they instruct us how to live and how to love our Father and our brothers and sisters who are the family of God our Father.

His commandments are how we are to love and protect.. one another. In the end my friends.. it's all about the greatest commandment.