

## GALATIANS 9

1. What is the yoke of slavery?

-The burden of trying to please God with our own works, but always failing.

-All religions except for true Christianity are under this yoke of slavery.

2. How do we stand firm in the winds and rain of false teaching, temptations, and problems?

-With strong roots in Christ alone who saves us and keeps us.

3. If we believe that we must do something to be saved, then what are we saying?

-That the death of Christ on the cross is not enough to save us.

4. If we believe that we must do something to be saved, can we be saved?

-No.

5. While we still sin because the flesh is still a part of our lives, what do we, by faith, eagerly wait for?

-A final righteousness when we will sin no more.

6. Before God, what is that which saves us?

-Simply our belief in Christ.

7. What was the sin that was spreading rapidly in the

Galatian churches which was touching everyone?

-The sin of believing that Christ's death on the cross is not enough to save us, and that we must also obey Moses' laws to be saved.

8. How do we know when a teacher is truly teaching the Word of God?

-There will not be confusion in the hearts of the Christians.

-There will only be peace.

Let's read Galatians 5:13-14

13-You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

14-For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

-As Christians, what has freed us?

-Belief in Christ alone.

-After having been freed, however, why do we want to return to the way of flesh?

-What is the difference between the way of the flesh and the way of God?

-The way of the flesh depends on our own strength, our own wisdom, and our own work.

-The way of God, however, is to depend on His strength, His wisdom, and His work in our lives.

-For Christians, why is it easy for us to return to the way of the flesh?

-Because we always depended on our own strength, our own wisdom, and our own work before we were freed by Christ.

-This is why we need God's help after we are saved.

-First, we need God to save us.

-Second, we need God to live His life through us.

-This is why there is a difference in Christians.

-Some Christians are saved, but then live their lives in the way of the flesh.

-Other Christians are saved, however, and allow God to live His life through them.

-First, only God can save us.

-Second, only God can live the life of God through us.

-If we allow God to live only a small portion in our lives, we will only see a small portion of God in our lives.

-If we allow God to live a large portion in our lives, we will see a large portion of God in our lives.

-How can God be completely God in our lives?

-We must continually ask Him to do so.

-First, we ask God to save us.

-Second, we ask God to live His life through us.

-This is the only way to serve one another humbly in love.

-This is the only way to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Let's read Galatians 5:15

15-If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

-By living in the way of the flesh, we will not only hurt others, but we will hurt ourselves as well.

-This is because all Christians are a part of the family of God, and if one of the members suffers, then everyone in the family suffers.

Let's read Galatians 5:16

16-So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

-To walk means to continue forward which is what all Christians must do.

-To walk or to continue forward is our work while it is the work of the Holy Spirit of God to guide us.

-This is what the Lord Jesus said in John 16:13:

-“But when him, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth.”

-How do we not gratify the desires of the flesh?

-By asking and allowing the Holy Spirit of God to live His life through us.

-Who alone is more powerful than the desires of our flesh?

-Only God the Holy Spirit living in us.

-Galatians 5:16 is the summary of the Christian life, and to walk by the Spirit should be the goal of all Christians.

Let's read Galatians 5:17

17-For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

-Our flesh which is our old habits before we were saved is continually fighting against the Holy Spirit.

-How long will every Christian have this battle with the flesh?

-For as long as we live on earth.

-In Romans, God asked Paul to write about this battle with the flesh:

-“I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do” (Ro 7:15).

-“For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing” (Ro 7:19).

-In Romans 7:24-25, how does the Bible say that we can win this battle?

-“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!”

-As all Christians should know, the Lord Jesus Christ has already won the battle over sin, death, and Satan.

-And as all Christians should know, we need to call on the Lord Jesus Christ to win the battle over the flesh.

-The degree to which we call on the Lord Jesus Christ is the same degree which He will answer.

Let's read Galatians 5:18

18-But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

-This verse teaches us that we cannot be led by the Holy Spirit and try to obey the law at the same time.

-If we try to obey the law, then we are not being led by the Holy Spirit.

-If we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us, then we do not need to try to obey the law.

-It is being led by the Holy Spirit which is obedience to God even more than the law.

-This is because the Holy Spirit will only lead us in the ways of God because He is God Himself.

Let's read Galatians 5:19-21

19-The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;

20-idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

21-and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

-This is what the Lord Jesus said in Mark 7:

20-"What comes out of a person is what defiles them.

21-For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder,

22-adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

23-All these evils come from inside and defile a person."

-For those who do not believe in Christ, these acts of the flesh are normal.

-Because these people do not have the Holy Spirit living in their lives, they only have their flesh to guide them.

-For us who believe in Christ, these acts of the flesh can happen, but are not normal.

-Because we Christians have the Holy Spirit living in our lives, these acts of the flesh only come when we are not allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us.

Let's read Galatians 5:22-23

22-But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23-gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

-The fruit of the Spirit is given to us by God, and by God alone.

-In Hosea 14:8, God said this to Israel: “Your fruitfulness comes from me.”

-The love that God gives us is the love of God, and not the love of the flesh.

-The flesh can love when others around us are loving, but the love of God is completely unselfish and will continue to love even when others are not loving.

-The joy that God gives us is the joy of God, and not the joy of the flesh.

-The flesh can have joy for a short time when we are pleased with something, but the joy of God that God gives comes even in suffering and pain and will last forever.

-The peace that God gives us is the peace of God, and not the peace of the flesh.

-The flesh can have peace when there is quiet, but the peace of God can be ours even in the middle of war.

-The patience (forbearance) that God gives us is the patience of God, and not the patience of the flesh.

-The flesh can have patience when people can wait and no one is in a hurry, but the patience of God will last far beyond the patience of the flesh.

-The kindness that God gives us is the kindness of God, and not the kindness of the flesh.

-The flesh can be kind when others are being kind to us, but the kindness of God will continue even when we think that we should no longer be kind to others.

-The goodness that God gives us is the goodness of God, and not the goodness of the flesh.

-The flesh can be good when life and other people are being good to us, but the goodness of God will continue even when others around us are bad.

-The faithfulness that God gives us is the faithfulness of God, and not the faithfulness of the flesh.

-The flesh can be faithful as long as others do not betray us, but the faithfulness of God never stops, even when others around us have left us.

-The gentleness that God gives us is the gentleness of God, and not the gentleness of the flesh.

-The flesh can be gentle when others are also gentle to us, but the gentleness of God will continue even when others are hard.

-The self-control that God gives us is the self-control of God, and not the self-control of the flesh.

-The flesh can have self-control when there are no temptations and no one is hurting us, but the self-control from God is like Christ on the cross.

-There is no law against any of this fruit because it is directly from God.

-Our responsibility is to allow the fruit of God to grow in our lives.

Let's read Galatians 5:24

24-Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

-If our flesh with its passions and desires has been crucified, then why do we continue to sin?

-While the flesh is crucified when we believe in Christ, the death of the flesh will only be complete when God

takes us to heaven.

-Here is an illustration:

-When you cut off the head of a chicken, the chicken is dead, yet the headless body continues to run around for a time.

-For the Christian, the head of our old sinful nature has been cut off, and is, therefore, dead.

-Yet, the headless body of our flesh continues to run around for a time.

Let's read Galatians 5:25-26

25-Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

26-Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

-To keep in step with the Holy Spirit means to take His hand and walk alongside of Him.

-God wants us to walk alongside of Him as we live here on earth.

-If we allow God to walk alongside of us, we will not become conceited nor envy nor provoke others.