
Galatians: Experiencing Freedom

EXAM 1

Fill in the blank:

1. our sins, deliver
2. in the grace of Christ
3. man, revelation, Jesus Christ

True/False

- A. T
- B. F
- C. F

Find the Verse

1. v. 12
2. v. 14
3. v. 16
4. v. 23
5. v. 24

Points to Ponder:

1. Grace and peace (notice that this is repeated in most of Paul's letters and always in that order).

Grace is the basis for our restoration. Scripture says that we are "saved by grace" (Ephesians 2:8). Until we are reunited with the Father by grace, we cannot experience peace (or contentment). Grace must come before peace.

2. "in me" When Christ revealed Himself to Paul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-5), Paul surrendered his life (note his use of the word "Lord," which means "master," in Acts 9:5) and received salvation. After this experience, the Holy Spirit began a work in Paul's life to change him from a proud Pharisee into a humble servant of God. As Paul grew in his spiritual life, the characteristics of Christ (love, purity, gentleness, etc.) began to be seen in his life. God's ultimate goal is that others might see Christ in us. First we are saved (Christ revealed to *us*) and then we are sanctified (Christ revealed *in us*).

Beyond the Text: Personal response

EXAM 2

Underline:

1. fourteen
2. circumcised
3. Peter

Fill in the missing words:

not, works, faith, believed, justified, not, works, works, no, justified

True/False

- A. F
- B. T
- C. T
- D. T
- E. T
- F. T

Points to Ponder

1. This was a crucial issue because it affected the basis of our salvation. If Paul had yielded to “keep the peace,” it meant he would have had to agree that it took more than Christ to save us. He would have added the law or good works as a requirement for salvation. Any time that the person of Christ (who He is) or the work of Christ (what He did for us on the cross) is at stake, we cannot afford to back down. On the other hand, there are other issues such as whether we sing hymns or worship choruses that are not “salvation issues” (i.e. do not affect our salvation). In these situations we should be willing to be a bit flexible. In situations where there is a legitimate difference of interpretation, we may need to agree to disagree. As someone once said, “In the essentials, unity; in everything else, love.”

2. According to verse 21, if our relationship to the Father could have been restored by good works, then Christ’s death would have been in “vain.” In fact, the Father would be cruel to have required Christ to die an agonizing death on the cross if another way was possible. A gospel that preaches the necessity of works not only downplays the importance of Christ’s death on the cross, it portrays God as an unloving and cruel father.

Beyond the Text: Traditions develop when some action is meaningful and/or helpful. Because of the benefit it provides, this action gets repeated for years and sometimes, as in the church, for centuries. As long as that action remains meaningful and/or helpful,

there is nothing wrong with it. Unfortunately we often abuse traditions. Sometimes we keep repeating an activity even though it has lost its meaning and/or is no longer helpful. Other times the tradition becomes more important than the reality that it is supposed to represent. If traditions are kept in the proper perspective, they help us in our Christian walk. If we abuse them (as the Pharisees had), they can hinder our relationship to the Lord. Consider some of the traditions you are involved in. Perhaps you need to find out why you do something in a certain way. This can renew its meaning for you. Maybe you need to do something else that would be more helpful to you. The secret to healthy traditions is not to take them for granted.

EXAM 3

1. 15
2. 7
3. 14
4. Any 3 of the following six questions:
 - Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth?
 - Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?
 - Are you so foolish?
 - Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?
 - Have you suffered so many things in vain?
 - Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you . . . does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Fill in the blank:

believed, accounted, righteousness, foreseeing, justify, all, no, justified, God, just, faith

These verses tell us that it was God's plan all along (from the time of Abraham) to bring others (Gentiles) into the same relationship as He had with the Jews. Furthermore, this plan involved salvation by faith rather than by keeping the Law.

Points to Ponder:

1. No, having begun by the Spirit, I cannot be made perfect (in the sense of complete) by the flesh. I do not have on my own either the strength or the wisdom to become the person God wants me to be. Only as I surrender to the work of the Holy Spirit in my life can I experience spiritual growth and maturity.

2. This is your personal paraphrase, but it may go something like the following: The law was meant to teach us (be our "tutor") that we are not able to come to God on our own merit. Instead, we need to place our faith in Christ and accept His payment for our sins.

Beyond the Text: My salvation does not depend on performing certain rituals or keeping certain standards (the law). Instead, salvation is offered to me by grace as I surrender my life to Jesus Christ, God's Son.

EXAM 4

Questions:

1. Six statements from Galatians 4:4-6:
 - (1) God sent forth His Son
 - (2) Born of a woman
 - (3) Born under the law
 - (4) to redeem those under the law
 - (5) receive adoption as sons
 - (6) sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts

Application: God will also bring to pass what is needed in your life at the appropriate time.

2. (1) But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? (v. 9)

(2) What then was the blessing you enjoyed? (v. 15)

(3) Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth? (v. 16)

(4) Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? (v. 21)

(5) Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? (v. 30)

3. You may have seen other similarities, but the following are three possibilities:

(1) We are not under bondage as slaves to the law but are part of God's family.

(2) Our relationship to God is one of Father (Abba) and child.

(3) Our relationship as God's children is confirmed by the Holy Spirit.

Points to Ponder:

1. A child inherits whatever belongs to his father. A slave inherits nothing.

2. People who have not been born spiritually will not get along with those who have. In particular, those who are living in bondage to legalism or some form of the law will have conflicts with those who aren't.

Beyond the Text: Christ will inherit everything (Ephesians 1:22, Hebrews 2:8). As a "joint-heir" (one who inherits equally), then we, too, will inherit all things.

EXAM 5

Sentence completion:

1. you have fallen from grace (This does not mean you have lost your salvation. It means, rather, that you have “stopped” or “turned away from” living by grace and are trying to live out the Christian life by keeping the law.) (v. 4)
2. but faith working through love (v. 6)
3. leavens the whole lump (v. 9)
4. but through love serve one another (v. 13)
5. and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh (v. 16)
6. you are not under the law (v. 18)
7. will not inherit the kingdom of God (v. 21)
8. let us also walk in the Spirit (v. 25)

Questions:

1. Under a yoke of bondage (v. 1)
2. The man who becomes circumcised (or tries to make himself acceptable to God by keeping the Old Testament ceremonial law). (v. 2)
3. Spirit (v. 17)
4. Other sins of a similar nature—Paul doesn’t intend to give an exhaustive list.

The “works of the flesh” are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. adultery | 2. fornication |
| 3. uncleanness | 4. licentiousness |
| 5. idolatry | 6. sorcery |
| 7. hatred | 8. contentions |
| 9. jealousies | 10. outbursts of wrath |
| 11. selfish ambitions | 12. dissensions |
| 13. heresies | 14. envy |
| 15. murders | 16. drunkenness |
| 17. revelries | |

The “fruit of the Spirit” are:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. love | 2. joy |
| 3. peace | 4. longsuffering |
| 5. kindness | 6. goodness |
| 7. faithfulness | 8. gentleness |
| 9. self-control | |

Points to Ponder:

1. Yeast begins as something very small, but, if left alone, it will grow and infect the whole. If we leave a small sin unchecked, it will sooner or later take over our whole life.
2. “Walking in the Spirit” means to allow the Holy Spirit to influence all parts of our daily lives whether we’re at work, school, home or enjoying some form of entertainment.

Beyond the Text: Paul says that unconditional love fulfills the law. How can you show this “no-strings-attached” kind of love in the next few days?

EXAM 6

1. This is your personal response.
2. A. conceited, provoking, envying
B. spirit, gentleness
C. burdens
D. doing good
3. This is your personal response.

Points to Ponder:

1. The works of the law were meant to show us how far from God’s perfection we fall. They are not able to provide salvation. Jesus paid

the price on the cross for our sins. When we accept Him as our Savior, His death pays for our sins as well. By faith (trust), we accept that payment and give Him thanks. John 1:12 says, “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.”

2. The context of bearing one another’s burdens is that of love. Because we love one another, we should help one another. When Paul observes that “each one shall bear his own load,” the context indicates being responsible or taking ownership of our behavior (“his own works”). Paul is not contradicting himself. He is simply saying that Christians should help one another, but, ultimately, we have to be responsible for our own behavior. We are responsible to people (to help, to show compassion), but we are not to be responsible *for* people (i.e.: take responsibility for their decision and/or actions).