



THE WORK THAT GOD REQUIRES: FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Galatians 5:1-15



VS. 1

The intention of our being set free from the Law has always been that we would LIVE as free.

John 8:32-36

Both free from the Law (as in this context) and free from sin's shackles Romans 6:1-14



WE = THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST

Justification – We have been saved from sin's penalty

Sanctification – We are being saved from sin's power

Glorification – We will be saved from sin's presence

CHRIST OF NO VALUE? VS. 2

As always, context is king:

Adding anything to Christ in order to secure salvation
(as in adherence to the Law's demand for
circumcision) declares Him to be inadequate



VS. 3-5

The Law is a unit. It's all or none. James 2:10

Our grasping to be justified (declared right in God's eyes) by observing the Law is pushing us from the grace that saves. Jesus is THE Way, not A way.

“By faith” Recall that the Law served as a tutor to point us to Christ. When we came to Jesus, the Spirit took over.



VS. 6

As it relates to the power to save,

Circumcision is useless.

Uncircumcision is useless.

In fact, all the rule-following is powerless to save.

Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ.

Period. (Eph. 2:8-9)

What's love got to do with it? John 13:35



VSS. 7-10

“Who cut in on you?”

Recall the warning in 1 Cor. 15:33

Your intel didn't come from the Shepherd of our souls but from the one who loves to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). The Enemy enlisted volunteers. Those volunteers will pay a great price.

(See also Matt. 18:5-6)



“TELL ME HOW YOU REALLY FEEL”
VSS. 11-12

Apparently a tactic used by the Judaizers was to suggest that Paul agreed that

Jesus + the Law = Salvation

Paul sarcastically suggested that they follow the example of pagan priests and emasculate themselves



A CAUTION VSS. 13-15

Liberty in Christ DOES NOT mean license to sin.
(Again, Rom. 6)

This freedom in Christ is not a freedom to do what we want. It's a freedom – through the power of the Holy Spirit - to do what ought be done.



Once again, discipleship is demonstrated in the way
we love one another.

Let us crucify pride and guard our hearts against
temptation to defect from or add to the Gospel. And
let us guard against the Enemy's attempts to destroy
us from within.