Message Outline



Galatians 6:11-18 NKJV

11 See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! 12 As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. 13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.
17 From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.
18 Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Seeing isn't Believing
Since seeing is what they foolishly like to do, he says:
You people are NOT walking by faith. Using your eyes, looking outwardly for a sign of faith.

FAITH is not proven by works of the flesh.

You can show your faith by your works, but you don't prove your faith by them.

Jesus PLUS anything that comes after it is not true faith. We are not justified by works.

When you do, you begin to form a competitive attitude. And this is the wrong attitude.

Illustration - Class 101
In the section of "What does it mean to be a Christian?," it says this:

- *Everyone wants to be happy!*
  - *But real happiness comes from understanding my PURPOSE IN LIFE.*
  - *Why Am I Here? God made me to LOVE me.*
  - *We were created to ENJOY a personal relationship with God*
- *What's The Problem?* (Between God and man?)
  - *Man has a natural desire to BE BOSS and to ignore God's principles for living. The Bible calls this attitude: SIN!*

The way that you think–your attitude, is the way that you will act. Everyday, believers are battling their own sin attitude.

What does the Bible say?
And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2

Attitude–a firm position in a way of thinking or feeling about something in which you act.

Stand firm in the freedom we have in Christ. (Galatians 5:1)–the beginning of getting the right attitude.

Freedom is the ultimate reset switch and the starting point. Allowing you to rebuild without being connected to what you had in the past. Freedom is the beginning of Godly joy and true happiness.

Showing Off
"A good showing" is something you DO to show off that you truly are in the faith. You cannot show something to prove faith in Jesus.

Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. **Romans 14:22**

Don't worry about those people, with their competitive attitude. They are competing with themselves.

Matthew 7:2 – *For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.*

Humbly let them win. The race of faith is your self-discipline for the Lord in what you decide to do.

A Quick Lesson On Results
v.13 is all about physical results and numbers, so they could boast. When you do things for results, to prove you are something, someone will always out do you. Unless it is God working through you.

Illustration
When the disciples were on the boat with Jesus, He told them to cast the net even though they could not see any fish (John 21).

What did it prove?
It proved that Jesus had risen from the dead, and was who he said he was, God. Why? Because they did more with Him, than they could have accomplished on their own.

That is the goal. That is the point of any of "our doing." It is to show Christ IN you...not you. Just do what you decided the Lord has called you to do. That is between you and God. He takes care of the results.

And Paul says in v.14, that if we boast in our own accomplishments, we rob the power of Christ.

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel... **1 Corinthians 1:17**

He knew that to boast in baptisms, it would take away the power of the cross of Christ.

The Called
In Antioch, why were they first called Christians? Because people saw them ACTING like Christ.

John 13:34-35–love each other, like I have loved you, and then they will know you are my disciples.

In Antioch, they were observed as Christians because of their attitude.

But Paul begins to reveal something about his attitude: *Our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

You can control someone when you can affect what they care about.

What is that one thing the world has that you need?

Paul's interest is not what the world can offer him or what he can offer the world.
Only what Christ can offer him, and what Christ can offer the world.

Philippians 4:11-13, BSB
11 I am not saying this out of need, for I have learned to be content regardless of my circumstances. 12 I know how to live humbly, and I know how to abound. I am accustomed to any and every situation—to being filled and being hungry, to having plenty and having need.

Don't you wish you had this confidence?

Why is Paul Like This?
He looks back where he came from, and knows there is no way that he could be where he is, without the power of Jesus Christ.

John 10—if you are having trouble with believing in Jesus, believing He is your God, then think back about the miracles He has done in your life.

Where would you be right now without Jesus? What would you be doing?

Question: Have you had an experience meeting the savior Jesus Christ?
Because if you have, you know you have. You can't deny it.

Knowing Jesus means you know God, and He knows you as His Spirit lives inside you. He frees you from the power of sin. Sin can no longer touch you.

You will know it is true, because you do more with Him, than you ever could do on your own.

But, if sin is no longer a problem, and if death has no sting, what is left? Attitude.

Paul's Attitude
From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

Paul knew his attitude needed to go from "I am the BOSS" with a sin-attitude to "I am a SERVANT" with a love-people attitude.

And he became great. Why? He served at the greatest level, people at the lowest level. That is the key to greatness, that Jesus taught in Matthew 20.

Paul became the Apostle to the Gentiles. Paul loved the world, as Christ loved the world.

This is the formula: Be transformed by the renewing of your mind! Behold the freedom you have in Christ and the power that is within you by His Spirit. Then you can determine the will of God for your life, and then do it.

So live by faith, and not with what you see or can't see.

In Christ, you need not fear God, death, or man. Follow Jesus to be set free.

Jesse Cesario
Tokyo Baptist Church
September 23-24, 2023

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