

Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Series objective

The church in Galatia was divided over issues of observing Jewish laws and regulations according to the Torah. Many leaders within this church were requiring non-Jewish Christians to live by Jewish laws that missed the main point of the Gospel message in that Jesus fulfilled the law and saved all who believe in him. As has always been true when people trust in Jesus as the Messiah, His life, death, and resurrection become the basis of their salvation. As a result, they become new creations. The book of Galatians reminds Jesus' followers to embrace the Gospel message of the crucified Messiah, that justifies all people through faith and empowers them to live as Jesus did.¹



Overview of Chapter 6

Verses 1 – 10

Relationships with others and impacting their lives

Verses 11 – 18

Living under the New Covenant

1. Verses 1 through 5 are an excellent passage discussing personal and inter-personal relationships within the church. Consider the following questions as you read through these verses.
 - a. Verses 1-2 talk about helping brothers and sisters in Christ stay pure. How important is this process and what is Paul's warning?
 - b. What are we to do when we go to a brother or sister in Christ and they refuse to listen to you? Consider Matthew 18:15-20 in developing your answer.
 - c. Verses 3-5 talk about personal accountability. How important is self-evaluation and carrying our own load?
2. The concept of reaping and sowing as discussed in verses 6-10 is common throughout God's Kingdom and the Bible. Give an example of a time when you saw a direct relationship between what you did and what resulted (either good or bad).

¹ Bibleproject.com

3. In verses 11-18 Paul talks about living under the New Covenant and taking pride in our Christianity.
 - a. In what areas of your life do you take pride (be honest)?

 - b. What does it mean to take pride in our salvation or boast in the cross as Paul puts it?

Provided in the figure below is a graphic showing the three facets of salvation. I want to be very clear – this is NOT a progressive salvation, or stages of salvation that we see in cults where people work to earn their salvation. Rather, there are three distinct facets of salvation we experience as Believers. Once we make a profession of faith and are justified, we are eternally secure. From that point forward until death (or the Rapture of the Church), we are being sanctified.

To better understand justification, sanctification, and glorification, consider the following:

- Justification – saved from the **PENALTY** of sin
- Sanctification – saved from the **POWER** of sin
- Glorification – saved from the **PRESENCE** of sin



I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14

The following verses discuss how the three facets of salvation.

- Justification (Romans 5:1 and 8:33)
- Sanctification (2 Timothy 2:15-26)
- Glorification (John 12:12-16, Romans 8:30, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12)

Most teaching on salvation does not distinguish between what can be called the *facets of salvation*; specifically, failing to distinguish between justification and sanctification. Failing to make a distinction between justification and sanctification at best results in confusion when discussing salvation, while at worst creates a works-based salvation that is common-place among the cults.