

## Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

November 7, 2021

### Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Ed Ostrowski (Galatians 5:7-12)

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: Virginia Grosskurth

Message: *Running in Place of Grace* (Galatians 5:7-12)

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

### Announcements

**Faith Bible Bowling:** If you would be interested in a Sunday afternoon of bowling and pizza after church, sign the signup sheet on the bulletin table.

**Daniel Commentary:** The *Berean Bible Society* board of directors has asked the pastor to write a commentary on the book of Daniel that they will then publish. Please be in prayer about this project.

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

## Galatians 5:1-6 *Stand Fast In Your Liberty!*

The “liberty” Paul says to “stand fast” in is the one that makes us “free” *from the law* (5:1). We *need* to be free from this “ministration of *condemnation*” (II Cor.3:9) because it demands 100% obedience *100% of the time* (Gal.3:10). You couldn’t give that before you were saved, so the law *condemned* you, and you asked God to save you by grace.

But you *still* can’t keep it, so *the law still condemns you*. Not to hell, but to *feeling* condemned, so “stand fast” *in grace* instead (Gal.5:1). “Fast” means *immovable* (Acts 27:41). The Galatians *moved* (Gal.1:6), and got “entangled” in the law (5:1), the way the Jews were *trapped* by the Red Sea (Ex.14:2,3). They probably felt *hopeless*, and you will too if you put yourself under the law, since you still can’t keep it.

Paul calls the law “the yoke of bondage” (Gal.5:1) because telling men “thou shalt” and “thou shalt not” is how you treat *slaves*, and slaves feel hopeless because they are trapped. You are “free from the law” (Rom.8:2), *so stand in grace!*

Paul interjects the subject of circumcision in this discussion of the law (Gal.5:2) because it was the first thing a Gentile had to do to be saved under the law (Ex.12:48). But the Galatians got saved *under grace*, so Paul said if they got circum-cised “Christ shall profit you nothing.” It can’t take away the profit we already have, i.e., *salvation* (ICor.10:33). But the law *can* rob you of the *additional* profit Christ can give you.

Doing the first thing the law tells you to do obligates you to do *all* the things the law says to do (Gal.5:3), and you can’t, *so you’re cursed* (3:10). The law can’t curse you to a loss of salvation, but to a loss of “blessedness” (cf.4:15), i.e.,

*thankfulness* (Mark 6:41 cf. John 6:11). And thankfulness is the basis for all we do. We don't do good works to *get* saved, but to show God we're thankful He saved us. Thankfulness leads to a happy life—the additional profit Christ can give!

No man is justified by the law in the sight of God (Gal.3:11), so the ones whom Paul says “are” justified by it (5:4) are justified *in their own eyes*. That means they were “fallen from grace.” People use that verse to say we're saved by grace, but you can sin too much and *lose* the salvation you got by grace. But the Galatians were *religious*, not sinful like the Corinthians. Paul didn't tell *them* they fell from grace. He told that to the Galatians because *falling* from grace in the context means *not standing* in grace (5:1). Grace justifies you 100% from “all” things (Acts 13:39). If you think you're justified by the law, and you only *keep* the law 90% of the time, *you're only 90% justified*. To get from 100% justification to 90% justification, *you have to fall*.

Now, to get 100% righteousness *in your conduct*, you'll have to “wait” for it (Gal.5:5). That's our “hope” of righteousness, and “hope” means *trust* (Ps.71:5), *confidence* (Job 4:6) and *expectation* (Pr.10:28). We wait for this hope “through the Spirit” (Gal.5:5) the same way Paul says we wait for it in Romans 8:23 through the Spirit. There the Spirit helps us when we “groan” in pain (Rom.8:23) by reminding us through the Book He wrote that we are children of God (8:15) and will someday be 100% healthy. And when we grieve the Spirit, He helps by reminding us that someday we'll be 100% righteous in our conduct as well as in Christ.

“Avail” (Gal.5:6) means *to profit* (Mark 8:36), so when Paul says circumcision can't “avail” us, it's another way of saying *again* that it can't “profit” us (cf. Gal.5:2). There's also no profit in “uncircumcision” (5:6), i.e., no profit in just *avoid-ing* circumcision and the law. There were

“spiritual”

Galatians who did avoid it (6:2), but that's not what made them spiritual! “Faith which worketh by love” did (5:6). What's that? Well, faith is *believing God* (Rom.10:17), and if you believe what God says, you're going to do good works *in any dispensation*. But faith that works *by law* helps your brother because God says you must (Deut.15:7,8). Faith that works *by love* helps a brother because you love him!

# Faith Bible Church

[www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com](http://www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com)

November 7, 2021

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Assistant Pastor Paul Balbach*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

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