

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

December 19, 2021

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Joshua 1:1-9 *Tracey South*

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Moses Is Dead!* (Joshua 1:1-9)

Announcements

A Merry Christmas to all! "...our Lord Jesus Christ...*was rich*, yet for your sakes He became poor, *that ye through His poverty might be rich*" (II Corinthians 8:9).

Today we begin a study of *Joshua*. Be reading ahead!

Faith Bible Bowling: The price is \$16 per person for 3 hours of bowling. Pizza and pop will be provided, or you can buy sandwiches, etc. See *Tracey South* with any questions.

Prayer Requests: Please remember to write them out and give them to Pastor Kurth before the service.

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

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

Galatians 6:12-18 *A Fair Show In The Flesh*

The Galatian legalizers wanted them circumcised (v.12) *to obligate them to keep the law* (cf.5:3), "to make a fair show in the flesh" (v.12)—a fair *religious* show, like the "shew" *of the law* (Col.2:20-23), a show Paul calls one of humility. If you get enough people in your religious show, you can make a "fair" show in the flesh. "Fair" in this context means *attractive* (cf.Gen.6:2). People are attracted to religious shows with lots of people. The legalizers in Galatia did it to avoid persecution (v.12) by unsaved Jews (cf.IThes.2:14). But there's always a lot of *hypocrisy* in religion, and Paul says there was among the legalizers too, who didn't keep the law (Gal.5:13). They were just like the Pharisees whom the Lord lambasted (Mt.23:1-3). Paul did too (Rom.2:17,21,23).

The legalizers also wanted to circumcise the Galatians to "glory" or *boast* about how many followers they had. Paul says God doesn't just *dislike* this, He "forbids" it (Gal.6:14). So Paul gloried *in the cross* instead, by whom the world was crucified to him. The world didn't want Christ, so they cru-cified Him, and once Paul got saved *he no longer wanted the world*. In the context, he meant the *religious* world. He called the law *worldly* in Colossians 2:20,21 as well. We usually think of *carnality* when we think of worldliness (Tit.2:12), but there's also a *religious* kind. It's crucified to us when we are crucified with Christ (Rom.6:1-6), along with "the flesh" of carnal sins (Gal.5:24) and the "fleshly mind" of religion (Col.2:16-19). The law is called a humility there too, a "voluntary" one, i.e., one God doesn't ask us for.

Paul adds that *he* was crucified *to the world* (Gal.6:14). He was just as dead to the world of religion as it was to him. If

you asked the law's unsaved leaders what they thought about Paul, they would have said, "Paul is dead to us."

Circumcision doesn't avail (v.15) or *profit* (cf.5:2,6) anything. It *used to*, back when Jews had the Scriptures the Gentiles didn't have (Rom.3:1,2). But now Paul was writing Scripture to Gentiles! And "uncircumcision" didn't profit either (Gal.6:15), for Paul's epistles were written to Jews too (Rom.1:5), so Gentiles didn't have anything *they* didn't have. All that matters is the "new creature" God makes you when you get saved (Gal.6:15 cf. IICor.5:17). It was a *rule* you had to be circumcised to please God, but Paul made a *new rule that you don't* (Gal.6: 15), and expects all men to "walk" by it (v.16). He talked about it more when he said he was part of the religious world of the law, but now counted it dung, and asks us to walk by this rule (Phil.3:5-16).

Paul extended "peace" to those who did (Gal.6:16), because the legalizers were troubling them (1:7), and trouble is the opposite of peace (Jer.8:15). He offers them "mercy" because they were being persecuted, and persecution is the opposite of mercy (Ps.109:16). Some say "The Israel of God" (Gal.6:16) is the Body of Christ. They say God cut ties with Israel when they killed His Son and made us "spiritual Israel." But it's not spiritual to imply God broke the promise of Jeremiah 31:37. Remember, "they're not all Israel, which are *of* Israel" (Rom.9:6). So only *saved* Jews are *true* Israel (Rom.2:28,29). That means the Israel of God consisted of *leftover kingdom saints*. They were still around, circumcising and teaching the law, so Paul extends peace to them so they'd know he wasn't condemning those things *in them*, only in the Body of Christ. And he extended them "mercy" for they were still being persecuted too (Acts 8:1).

It troubled Paul that the legalizers were troubling the Galatians (Gal.6:17). They wanted to "mark" the bodies of believers with circumcision, so Paul cited the persecution "marks" he'd incurred in his body trying to *prevent* that. He calls them *the Lord's* marks because He'd be bearing them in *His* body if he were still here. Finally, the cure to legalism *and* carnality is grace, so Paul closes this epistle by offering it (6:18) as well as his epistles to the carnal Corinthians (ICor. 16:23).

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

December 19, 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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