



Title | Reject and Rejoice
Series | Witness for the Defense
Text | Galatians 5:1-6
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Sermon Notes

Galatians 5:1-6. ¹ For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ² Look: I, Paul, say to you that If you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³ I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. ⁴ You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from Grace. ⁵ For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶ For In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

Big Idea:

Galatians 5:6 For In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read Galatians 5:1. Paul tells us in no uncertain terms to reject slavery to good works. We discussed the Performance Principle and how relying on good works after salvation is akin to a slave returning to an abusive tyrant. Why do you think it is so hard for us to abandon the Performance Principle?

Tuesday:

Read Galatians 5:2-3. Trying to obtain salvation by relying on good works and the Law makes us obligated to the whole law. There are over 600 rules in the Old Testament Law. How successful have you been in keeping those 600 rules? To put it another way, how many of those 600 rules have you broken and what does that mean for your attempt live by the Performance Principle?

Wednesday:

Read Galatians 5:2-3. Trying to obtain salvation by relying on good works and the Law makes us obligated to the whole law, but Christians tend to pick and choose which Old Testament laws they want to follow and which ones ignore, like choosing foods in a cafeteria or a buffet. How does this picking and choosing contrast with the obligation to keep the whole Law?

Thursday:

Read Galatians 5:4. Paul said that those who rely on works for salvation have fallen away from grace. Does this phrase mean that we can lose our salvation?

Friday:

Read Galatians 5:5-6. God is not opposed to good works in and of themselves, He is only opposed to requiring good works for salvation. After reading these verses, what is the one thing God requires for salvation?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, how marvelous you are! Thank you for revealing that I am to reject the slavery of legalism and, instead, I am to rejoice in the liberty found in my faith. Amen.

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