

Galatians 6:6-18

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Summary of Galatians

- Galatians had departed from the *true* gospel
 - 1:6
- Paul defends his apostleship (authority)
 - 1:10-2:14
- Justification by faith introduced
 - 2:16
- The purpose of the Law explained
 - 2:19-3:24
- Treated as sons, heirs of God through Christ
 - 3:26-4:7
- Law (legalism) is an inferior religion and cannot co-exist with grace.
 - 4:8-5:15
- Your flesh and God's Spirit within you are at war with each other
 - 5:16-5:25
- By walking in the Spirit, God's law is fulfilled *in* us and *through* us
 - 5:26-6:18

Sowing and Reaping

- Sowers decide the harvest, not the reapers
 - Kind – what variety
 - Nature – what quality
 - Amount – What quantity
- **Christian Ministry**
 - Seed: God’s Word
 - Harvest: Material *things*
 - 1 Cor 9:14; 1 Ti 5:17
 - Teachers *labor*
 - Learners *partner*
- **Christian Maturity**
 - Seed: Ourselves
 - What *field* are you planting yourself in?
 - Harvest will either be “corruption” (*flesh*) or “eternal life” (*Spirit*)
- **Christian Benevolence**
 - Seed: Good works
 - Harvest: *blessings*
 - Finish sowing and wait patiently (Ja 5:7)

Religion or the Cross?

JUDAIZERS

- Want to look good in front of other people
 - Matt 6:1-8
- Want to avoid persecution
 - The message of the cross is offensive
- Want to brag about how many followers they have
 - Do as I say, not as I do

PAUL

- Was dead to the world and the world was dead to him
 - No interest, no charm, not power
- His persecution scars were a badge of honor
 - 2 Cor 11: 23-28
- Boasted in the cross of Christ
 - By it he has been transformed into a new creation

Reflection Questions

- “Sow a thought, reap an act; sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny”
 - God cannot be mocked (v. 7). *You* determine what the harvest of your life will be.
 - What seeds are you sowing? Where are you sowing these seeds? How much seed have you sown?
- In your mind, what is the *essence* of Christianity? Is it what *you* must do for God or what *God* has done for you?
 - Human religion begins with work (e.g. circumcision) and continues with work (e.g. keeping the law)
 - Christianity begins with God’s work *for* you (Jesus dying on the cross) and continues with God’s work *in* you (Holy Spirit writing Gods’ laws on our hearts)