

**“Galatians Round-Up”**  
**By Brother Parrish Lee**  
**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Wow, wow, wow! If I have earned one thing during this time of sanctification, it is that it ain't about me. I have been trying to sanctify myself, and God has just opened up the doors to say, “This is what it's about. This is what sanctification is all about. It's including other people.” It's giving the bread that He gives unto us to others. I just had to say that.

Giving honor to God, who is the Head of my life, our Maker, our Creator, our Owner, our Savior, our Rock, our Sword, our Shield, our High Tower, our Way when there is no way, our Bridge over troubled waters, our Sun when it's dark out, our Lord, and our Redeemer. Giving honor to that God. Giving honor to all those in this ministry who have gone before myself: Our founding pastor and his family, our bishop and his family, Pastor Wilson, Brother Kenneth, giving honor to all of those who have paved the way, and giving honor to all of you who are here in attendance today.

It's not going to be a long message today, because everybody used up all the time. But, it would behoove us to be diligent about what the Lord has brought us.

*Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*

If you could just bow your heads for a moment: Lord, look at what great things You have done for our people. God, You inhabit praises; You answer requests, and when we bring our needs before You, You are an everlasting help in a time of need. So, therefore, we ask unto You, our great God, that You would look upon us; that you would grant all the petitions that we have asked, and, Lord, when Your will is different from what we desire, please give us the understanding and the faith and the strength to walk in Your ways. To know that You are our provider, that You know so much better than we do ourselves. That Your ways are so far above ours as the Heavens are above the Earth itself. God, we just want to love You and to praise You, to be in Your presence, to be in Your will. On that day when Your trumpet sounds, we want to be in Your glory. We pray, and submit all this in Jesus' name, and everyone said, amen.

It's not going to be a long message today, because, truly, the message has already been preached. It's been preached in the last two month, and in all the testimonies. Brother Kirk, talking about Haiti, Sister Nubia, talking about the fellowship with the Spanish-speaking ladies, Sonia, Terry, Brother Rod... Bring the blessing here, and then being able to look around and see it in so many people's faces. I wish you could see what I can see. It's a marvelous thing when God dwells in His people; it's a marvelous thing, it's a marvelous thing.

So, as we know, as a congregation, we have had the privilege of going through the Book of Galatians. I pray that it has been a wonderful time, this time of sanctification. Setting things aside, taking things apart, and just being focused for a little while. You know, when you do it as a congregation, every time it's different. It becomes new; it becomes, “We should have done this, and we should have done that. Well, we could have done this, and we could have done that. We would have done this and we would have done that.” The fact of the matter is, we present

ourselves to Almighty God; turn it over to Him! When he drives the car, when He drives the bus, you just don't know—you think it has wheels, when it actually has wings. You think you're going forward, when you're actually going up, being able to trust Him with that.

In this time of sanctification, going over the Book of Galatians, our earnest prayer is that we have benefitted from this; that we all have had an opportunity to grow, and have all been strengthened by this time. As we look, we see that so many things are there for us.

You know, Apostle Paul, when he went through Galatia, in what is modern-day Turkey, he encountered many things with this *new* body of believers—first generation Christians, and, yeah, some of them were getting to be second-generation Christians, but it was very new, this Christianity, this living for Christ. The Jewish Gospel, that had been taught to them, it was beautiful, but it did not bring them into salvation—it brought them *unto*, not *into* Christ. So, when this Gospel of the Lord had come and brought them *into* Christ, there were many new things, and Paul had to share with them; he had to help because they had to be taught. We saw, in chapter one, right off the bat, he said, “I marvel that you are so soon removed... Which is not another; but there be some that... would pervert the Gospel of Christ.” (Galatians 1:6-7) And, you know, that didn't have to have a date on that, because the fact of the matter is, the Gospel that we believe, that we live for every day, there are things all around us that desire to pucker it out, pull it out, water it down, to move it to some other place. Let's not make it number 1, let's make it number 2, and, if we can make it number 2, then I know we can make it number 10, and, if we can make it number 10, then I know that we can put it on a shelf and not have you worry about it. That Gospel, he said, “I marvel that you could be so soon removed from it.” He went on and he talked about—in the first part, he wanted to give thanks for those that were with him (Galatians 1:2). He was emphasizing that he doesn't do this alone. He's not the big Apostle Paul over everyone and he lords down upon them, no. “I work with people; they encourage me and I encourage them. I want to thank them for being men and women...” Yes, men and women travelled with him, and nobody was looking to be the big cheese. Nobody was looking for their own glory and to have their own wings shine a little brighter than everybody else's; they were concerned about the Gospel. That's the message that we want to present; that's what we want everybody to receive—I know for a fact that I've learned that intensely. I pray that I can live before the Lord that way; that I can live before the Lord in a way of humility.

We see, in another place, that there are times when a brother or a sister might be overtaken in a fault, and he gave us directive on that. He said, “Ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness...lest thou also be tempted.” (Galatians 6:1) If you want to put a little mark by that one, you could say, today it was them, but tomorrow, it could be you, it could be us. I'll be honest, because I'm not perfect, and I'm going to want my brothers and sisters sharing with me in a spirit of meekness. I don't want them coming to me with one of those slap-paddles, whacking me, saying, “Man, I been waiting a long time for this!” I want the presence to come to me in such a way that I can receive it and I can turn around and I can thank my brothers and sisters and I can go before the Lord and I can say, “Lord, I am sorry.”

We also see where Apostle Paul said that having culture is good. There is nothing wrong with having culture, but your culture is not what you put your faith in. Your faith is what you put before God to come and to be saved; your faith in His Word and in his Spirit.

We also saw, in the end of chapter 2, that we are crucified with Christ, and, nevertheless, we live. Yet, not I, but the Lord Jesus lives in us (Galatians 2:20). How awesome that is, that the Lord Jesus Christ lives in us. He lives in us. Do you know that? Do you know that the

Lord—you can see Him—He lives *in* you. Isn't that awesome? Say that with me. The Lord lives in me. Ooh. Isn't that marvelous? One more time. The Lord lives in me.

**Galatians 2:20**      *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

Amen, amen. So we have learned that, yeah, I am crucified with the Lord, and that's not a life of drudgery and misery and things are just breaking down and being dressed all in white staying in a room the while rest of your life—no, it's a whole life in God! Nevertheless, I live.. Christ lives in me.

We have learned, as Brother Joe shared, to stand fast in the liberty, in the liberty wherein Christ has made us free (Galatians 5:1). I want to thank Brother Tom Hanson, Brother Bob Heitzler, and Brother Christ Ulrich who have led the charge and have been preaching these messages that we might be reinvigorated, that we might come unto a greater understanding of things that we've known already, that they might be rehearsed in us, that we could be stronger in the faith. Holding to our theme for the month, "And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you." (Joshua 3:5) He will do wonders among you.

So, we learned to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and not to be entangled again in the yoke of bondage (Galatians 5:1). Standing fast means that when you get delivered, stay delivered. We've learned that, no matter what has been put upon us in this life, no matter what the curse has been, before we were born, where we born, whatever the cure might have been yesterday, that our Lord and savior gathered all of them—everything! Everything that somebody wants to put on you; everything that the devil has against you, even being in the nature of the flesh—our Lord went and took every single one of them, He took them up on the cross where they nailed them—they thought they were nailing His arms, but, in fact, He was stretching them wide in the biggest hug—as we know—that the world has ever known. We call that a PDA. I had the chance to work the base with Brother Rod yesterday. It was good for me. Amen. Getting around all those young people and feeling that age gap, and asking, "How can I be the man of God that God would have me to be to invite and to share and to be godly about it? I need to know!" Anyway, we were on base, and we went to several different places, and one of the places that we went was the USO. When I was in the service, you went to the USO, and they had a room probably a quarter of this size, and they had one little tube TV and a bunch of chairs that weren't soft, and they might have had a vending machine with a bag of potato chips in it. When I was in the service, that's what the USO was. I went to this place, and they had lounge chairs, flat-screen TV's, they had game consoles (X-boxes and Playstations), and they had several—most of them were sailors, I think some of them might have been Army, because they have several different uniforms that they wear now—We were up there, and we were walking from room to room, and they had the lighthouse room, and they had pool, and they had all kinds of different things—they even had a full-blown kitchen. A full-blown kitchen! Not a vending machine, a kitchen! Good gracious alive! We went by one room, and it was kind of dark, and they had the TV in there, and the lady that was taking us around looked in there, and she said, "Hey! No PDA!" I was like, is that a personal digital assistant? I said, "What's a PDA?" She said, "Public Display of Affection." I thought, "Wow! No PDA!" That was there at the USO, but the biggest PDA that the world—not just the world, but life has ever known—

was outpoured when he opened His arms wide and it went around the world, and it didn't just stretch present-day around the world, it stretched all the way back to Adam and Eve, and all the way forward to the very last one who will say, "I give my heart, soul, and life to the Lord Jesus Christ." They will be saved also. That's how a PDA really goes. A Public Display of affection, and it's all about Him.

We went through chapter 5, where it talks about the works of the flesh, and the fruits of the Spirit. What kind of path, what kind of thing, what kind of reward it does for our soul; those works of the flesh, what kind of reward can we expect after them. The fruits of the spirit, what you should see when you're walking in the Spirit of the Lord.

Lastly, we saw, in chapter 6, saints, we saw **not** to be weary in well-doing. Not to get to the place where something will come along and say, "I'm tired. I'm weary of a person, I'm weary of a situation, I'm weary of a circumstance, I'm weary, I'm weary, I'm weary, I'm weary."

*Galatians 6:9* And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

You may say, "Brother Parrish, we went through six chapters, four different people up there talking about it. That's a whole lot to condense. You didn't even go over every single verse. That's a whole lot to condense. That's a whole lot to take with me every place I go. What are you trying to say? It can't be done!" Amen. The brother says, "Absolutely." The Lord said that He would send unto us the Holy Ghost, Who would bring all things to our remembrance (John 14:26). We used to have hard drives for computers and stuff. If you wanted to store your information—they've got the portable ones, you know—but, it would get to the place where they would get filled up. You put pictures, and videos, and stuff on there, those hard drives would start to get filled up. So they've got something that they call 'the cloud.' "Store it in the cloud." No matter how much room you need, you've got plenty of room in the cloud. Well, our brain is like a hard drive; it can store only so much. The Holy Ghost is better than any cloud, or any thing that you want to bring up, because you don't have to search through the Holy Ghost—He brings what you need to remembrance. That's probably where they got the model from. Somebody must have been saved and thought that up.

*2 Timothy 3:14-17* But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

You might think, "When I was a baby, I didn't know all this stuff." It's not talking about being a child in the flesh; it's talking about being a child when we received the Holy Ghost into our lives when we took Him on and received the name of Jesus.

So we see here, God wants us to be wise unto salvation. He doesn't want this salvation thing to be hit or miss. He wants us to be wise about our salvation. He wants us to profit in His doctrine. He doesn't just want that Word to just sit out there; He wants it to be beneficial. He wants us to gain in our spiritual life—in our life, period. He wants that we should be thoroughly

furnished unto all good works. You know, if you walk into a house, and, if it's bare, you look in there, and you can say, "Well, it has potential, but there's not a lot I can do, because it's not furnished very well." Well, God looks at our houses, and He says, "I'll fill it up. I'll fill it up with My Spirit, My presence; I'll fill it up with My Word. I'll fill it up with My love. This man, this woman, wherever they go they will be thoroughly furnished unto all good works, and they will have Me." That is God.

That's our sermon, that's our message for today from the Book of Galatians.

