

Galatians 5:9-14

9-10. A little leaven LEAVENS the whole LUMP. I have confidence in you, in the Lord, that you will have no other mind; but **he who TROUBLES YOU shall bear his JUDGMENT**, whoever he is.

- **II Corinthians 2:3** "And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having _____ in _____ all that my joy is the joy of you all."
- **II Corinthians 10:6** "And being ready to _____ all _____ when your obedience is fulfilled."
- **John 5:26-27** "For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him _____ to execute _____ also, because He is the Son of Man."
- **Matthew 22:13** "Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer _____; there will be _____ and gnashing of teeth.'"
- **Revelation 22:12** "And behold, I am coming _____, and My _____ is with Me, to _____ to every one _____ to his _____."

Definition: "A little leaven LEAVENS the whole LUMP" - This probably doesn't make a lot of sense to many people in our time, unless you've ever baked your own bread. I used to make homemade bread all the time, and I would have to buy little packets of **YEAST to put in the dough to cause it to rise. LEAVEN means YEAST** or some other ingredient that will cause the LUMP of DOUGH to rise and make fluffy bread, otherwise you get flatbread or crackers. In the process of making the dough rise, **the yeast or "leaven" PERMEATES the WHOLE lump**. This figure of speech was used to show **how EVIL or ERROR can PERMEATE true Christian doctrine until it CORRUPTS the whole thing**. A little bit of legalism can corrupt the true gospel, if we're not careful to catch it at the very start. Beware of anyone who tries to add any ritual, commandment-keeping or any human act to the requirements for salvation. There is no other "requirement" for salvation other than FAITH in JESUS CHRIST.

- **I Corinthians 5:6-8** "Your glorying is _____ good. Do you not know that a _____ leaven _____ the whole _____?"
- **Matthew 13:33** "Another parable He spoke to them: 'the _____ of _____ is like _____, which a woman took and hid in three measures of _____ till it was all _____.'"

Definition: "He who TROUBLES YOU shall bear his JUDGMENT" - God takes it very seriously when false teachers come in and try to trip up or "trouble" His children with their false beliefs. Jesus said it was so serious, and that **their JUDGMENT would be like having a HUGE WEIGHT (like a millstone) tied to them and being drowned in the sea. God's word also uses the word "REWARD" to refer to His JUDGMENT of their WORKS, whether good or BAD**. God will bring JUDGMENT and PUNISHMENT to anyone who leads His children astray. In the book of Revelation, we see Jesus condemning the church at Thyatira for allowing a woman who claimed to be a prophetess to lure and deceive His people by leading them into sexual sins and idolatry. **In today's churches, there are many men and women who are FALSE PROPHETS and so-called PROPHETESSES**. We must be discerning and beware of them and avoid those churches who are letting these people teach and seduce their congregations.

- **Luke 17:1-2** "Then He said to the disciples, 'It is impossible that no _____ should come, but _____ to him through whom they do come! It would be _____ for him if a _____ were _____ around his _____, and he were thrown into the _____, than that he should _____ one of these little ones.'"
- **Revelation 2:14** "But I have a few things _____ you, because you have there those who hold the _____ of _____, who taught Balaam to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things _____ to _____, and to commit _____ immorality."
- **II Corinthians 11:13-15** "For such are _____ apostles, _____ workers, transforming (DISGUISED) themselves into _____ of _____. And no wonder! For _____ himself transforms (DISGUISES) himself into an _____ of _____. Therefore it is no great thing (not surprising) if his _____ also _____ themselves into ministers of righteousness; whose _____ will be according to their _____."
- **Revelation 2:20-22** "Nevertheless I have a few things _____ you, because you allow that _____ Jezebel, who calls herself a _____, to _____ and beguile (seduce, trick) My _____ to commit _____ immorality and to eat things sacrificed to _____. And I gave her time to _____ of her _____ immorality, and she did _____ repent. Indeed, I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit _____ with her into great tribulation, unless they _____ of their _____."
- **Acts 13:9-10** "Then Saul, who also is called Paul, _____ with the _____, looked intently at him and said, 'O full of all deceit and all _____, you _____ of the _____, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease _____ the straight _____ of the _____?'"
- **Jude 11** "Woe to them! For they have _____ in the _____ of Cain, have run _____ in the _____ of _____ for _____, and perished in the rebellion of Korah."

Definition: "The ERROR of BALAAM" - In the book of Revelation, Jesus calls this "the doctrine of Balaam". Doctrine means teaching, so it is the teaching or ways of what Balaam did back in the Old Testament. This teaching is basically to "put a stumbling block" in the way of God's people, and to seduce them and get them to worship and serve idols and commit sexual immorality (adultery, fornication, and all sexual sins). **Balaam's motives for doing this were covetousness and GREED**, because he finally turned away from God in order to receive the amount of money that was being offered to him. The background of Balaam is found in Numbers 22, 23 and 24. The Judaizers that Paul was dealing with in Galatia were not introducing sexual immorality as their false doctrine, but **their form of legalism and mixing the Old Testament law with the gospel of Jesus Christ was just as damaging to the church.**

- **II Peter 2:15-16** "They have _____ the _____ and gone _____, following the _____ of _____ the son of Beor, who loved the wages of _____; but he was _____ for his iniquity: a dumb _____ speaking with a man's voice restrained the _____ of the _____."

11. And I, brethren, if I STILL PREACH circumcision, why do I still SUFFER PERSECUTION? Then **the OFFENSE of the CROSS** has ceased.

- **Galatians 6:12** "As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these try to _____ you to be _____, only that they may _____ suffer _____ for the _____ of Christ."
- **I Corinthians 1:18-24** "For the message of the _____ is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being _____ it is the _____ of God. For it is written: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.' Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not _____ made _____ the _____ of this _____? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did _____ know God, it pleased God through the _____ of the message preached to _____ those who _____. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ _____, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks _____, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, _____ the _____ of _____ and the _____ of _____."

Definition: "The OFFENSE of the CROSS" - The gospel of Jesus Christ, with its teaching that **we only have to BELIEVE in what Jesus did on the CROSS in order to be saved**, is an offense to many people. It is an offense **because they think they are good enough already to go to heaven, or they think they can do enough good works** for God to let them go to heaven. **It is offensive for people who are FULL of PRIDE and SELF-SUFFICIENCY** to be told they cannot work their way to God, but they must just BELIEVE in **the WORK of Christ on the CROSS**. Because of their **offended PRIDE**, they persecute true Believers who are teaching salvation by God's grace. Paul also says it is "foolishness" to many people, when he says, "but **we preach Christ crucified (on the CROSS)**, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness."

12-14. I could wish that those who TROUBLE YOU **would even CUT THEMSELVES OFF!** For **you brethren, have been CALLED to LIBERTY**; only do not use liberty as an **OPPORTUNITY for the FLESH**, but **through LOVE serve ONE ANOTHER**. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself.."

- **James 1:25** "But he who _____ into the _____ law of _____ (freedom) and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be _____ in what he does."
- **II Corinthians 3:17-18** "Now the _____ is the _____; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is _____. But we all with unveiled _____, beholding as in a _____ the glory of the Lord, are being _____ into the same _____ from glory to glory, just as by the _____ of the Lord."
- **I Corinthians 8:9** "But beware lest somehow this _____ of _____ become a stumbling block to those who are weak."
- **I Peter 2:15-16** "For this is the _____ of _____, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men - as _____, yet _____ using your _____ as a cloak for vice, but as _____ of God."

Definition: "LOOKS into the PERFECT LAW of LIBERTY" - The **WORD of GOD is "the perfect law of LIBERTY"** spoken of here, and it is compared to a mirror. If you are a "doer" of the word, you will be transformed into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ **as you read and study His word** (see II Corinthians 3:17), because **you will APPLY in your LIFE what you've read in God's word and DO it**. But the one who is a "hearer only and not a doer" just forgets what he or she has seen or heard, and goes on being the same old selfish person they were before. It's like looking in a mirror, seeing that your hair is all messed up and your face dirty, but then walking away without brushing your hair and washing your face!

- **James 1:22-24** "But be doers of the _____, and not _____ only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a _____ of the _____ and not a _____, he is like a man observing his natural _____ in a _____; for he observes himself, goes _____, and immediately _____ what kind of man he was."

Definition: "Those who TROUBLE YOU would even CUT THEMSELVES OFF" -

Paul is using sarcasm and exaggeration to make a point. He is NOT saying that these Judaizers should actually maim and mutilate themselves, but he is making a point that if physical circumcision were really important to our salvation, then why not just go all the way and castrate themselves? Again, **he is being sarcastic, NOT seriously saying they should do this.** It is like Jesus, when he said it is better to cut off your hand or pluck out your eyes if they are causing you to sin. **Jesus was NOT advocating literally cutting off your hand or plucking out your eyes,** but was using exaggeration to make a point. The POINT IS **"sin is SERIOUS business to God!"**

- **Matthew 5:29-30** "And if your right _____ causes you to _____, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right _____ causes you to _____, _____ if _____ and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your _____ perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell."

Definition: "Through LOVE serve ONE ANOTHER" - All the commandments are summed up in "Love God and **LOVE your neighbor as yourself.**" On the surface, you may not think that everything could be covered by those two commandments, but if you find **the root cause of any SIN,** it comes down to **NOT loving God** completely and wholly, or **NOT loving others** with God's kind of love. God's kind of love is not just a "feeling" - but LOVE is put into action, as **our LOVE for one another should be put into ACTION as we SERVE one another in the Body of Christ.**

- **Romans 13:8-10** "Owe no man anything except to _____ one _____, for he who _____ another has _____ the _____. For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'You shall not covet,' and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, 'You shall _____ your neighbor as yourself.' _____ does no _____ to a neighbor; therefore _____ is the fulfillment of the law."
- **Matthew 22:36-40** "'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?' Jesus said to him, 'You shall _____ the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall _____ your _____ as _____. On these _____ commandments hang _____ the Law and the Prophets.'"
- **John 15:12** "This is My commandment, that you _____ one _____ as I have _____ you."
- **I John 3:11** "For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should _____ one _____."