

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_."