

Galatians 5:3-5

3. And I testify again to **every man who becomes CIRCUMCISED** that he is a debtor to **KEEP the WHOLE LAW.**

- **James 2:10** "For whoever shall _____ the _____, and yet stumble in _____ point, he is guilty of _____."
- **Romans 2:25-** "For _____ is indeed profitable if you _____ the _____; but if you are a _____ of the _____, your _____ has become uncircumcision."

Definition: "Every man who becomes CIRCUMCISED is a debtor to KEEP the WHOLE LAW" - Circumcision was the outward sign of the fact that the Israelites had a covenant with God. **Jesus brought in the New Covenant**, and the sign of circumcision for the Old Covenant was now obsolete. As Christians under **the New Covenant, we have two "outward signs" of our covenant with God: (1.) water baptism and (2.) the Lord's Supper (communion)**, and we do not need the outward sign of circumcision that belonged to the Jews or nation of Israel. What these people who were following the Judaizers didn't realize is that **if you're going to take one or two things from the Mosaic Law and say that Christians have to obey them, then you're going to have to keep the entire law!** The Law of Moses, with the commandments on the tablets of stone, was not even in existence from the time of Adam and Eve, and on through all the early patriarchs such as Enoch, Noah, Job, Abraham, and Isaac. **The word of God tells us that "the law was four hundred and thirty years" AFTER the time of the COVENANT of FAITH that God made with Abraham.** God made a "covenant of faith" with Adam, with Noah, and with Abraham, and all the other people who believed God in their times, completely apart from the laws God gave to Moses and the people of Israel. We need to have this perspective, because then it is not so strange to think that **God would supercede the law of Moses and the covenant He had with Israel with a NEW and BETTER covenant. The Law of Moses, with its sign of circumcision, was in EFFECT for God's people during a CERTAIN TIME, and under CERTAIN CONDITIONS, namely UNTIL the MESSIAH (Christ) SHOULD COME.** The New Covenant went into effect when Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty our sins, and when He rose from the dead for our justification.

- **Luke 22:20** "And in the same way _____ took the _____ after they had eaten, saying, 'This cup is the _____ in My _____, which is _____ for you.'"
- **Galatians 3:17** "And this I say, that the _____, which was _____ and _____ years _____, cannot annul (do away with) the covenant that was confirmed before by _____ in _____, that it should make the _____ of no effect."
- **Hebrews 8:6-7 & 13** "But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a _____ covenant, which was established on _____ promises. For if that _____ covenant had been _____, then no place would have been sought for a second." (Verse 13) "In that He says, 'A _____ covenant', He has made the first _____ . Now what is becoming _____ and growing _____ is ready to _____."

4-5. You have become estranged from Christ, you **who ATTEMPT to be JUSTIFIED by the LAW; you have FALLEN from GRACE.** For we **through the Spirit** eagerly wait for the **HOPE of RIGHTEOUSNESS by FAITH.**

- **Romans 8:24-25** "For we were saved in this _____, but _____ that is seen is not _____; for why does one _____ for what he sees? But if we _____ for what we do _____, then we eagerly _____ for it with perseverance."
- **Hebrews 12:15** "Looking _____ lest anyone _____ short of the _____ of _____; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled."
- **Romans 6:14** "For _____ shall _____ have _____ over you, for you are _____ under _____ but under _____."
- **Romans 11:6** "And if by _____ then it is no longer by works (the law); otherwise _____ is no longer _____. But if it is of works (keeping the law), it is no longer _____; otherwise _____ is no longer _____."
- **Galatians 3:21** "Is the _____ then _____ the promises of God? Certainly not! For _____ there had been a _____ given which _____ have given _____, truly righteousness _____ have _____ by the _____."
- **II Peter 3:17-18** "You therefore, beloved, since you know these things beforehand, _____ lest you also _____ from your own _____, being led away with the error of the wicked; but _____ in the _____ and _____ of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen."

Definition: "You have FALLEN from GRACE" - Some people use this expression to say that a person can lose their salvation and "fall from grace." But if you read this carefully, you see that Paul is saying that if they are going to try to "be justified by the law"; **they "have FALLEN from GRACE."** If you are going to put yourself back under the law of Moses, you must accept the death penalty and "curse" for not keeping the law. **The law was an unbearable BONDAGE** that no one could keep, and the penalty for breaking the law was usually to be stoned to death. That's not GRACE! **Grace is God giving us what we don't deserve. We are in Christ, and Christ has made us free from the curse of the law!**

- **Galatians 5:1** "Stand fast therefore in the _____ by which _____ has made us _____, and do not be _____ again with a _____ of _____."
- **II Corinthians 3:4-6** "And we have such trust through _____ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our _____ is from _____, who also made us sufficient as _____ of the _____, not of the letter (the written law) but of the _____; for the letter _____, but the _____ gives _____. But if the ministry of _____, written and engraved on _____ (the 10 Commandments on stone tablets), was glorious, so that the children of _____ could not look steadily at the face of _____ because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, (Exodus 34:1-9, 27-35) how will the ministry (working) of the _____ not be _____?"
- **Galatians 2:21** "I do _____ set _____ the _____ of God; for if righteousness comes through the _____, then Christ _____ in _____."

Definition: "I do NOT SET ASIDE the GRACE of God" - If you mix in the works of the law (trying to keep the Old Testament commandments), or try to ADD ANYTHING to Christ's work on the cross, you are **"SETTING ASIDE the GRACE of God,"** because you have ADDED your WORKS. The very meaning of GRACE is that it is **UNMERITED (you don't deserve it) and UNEARNED (you can't work for it) FAVOR - being ACCEPTED and LOVED by God** when we have done NOTHING and

CAN DO NOTHING to EARN or DESERVE it. We are saved by **God's GRACE through our FAITH**, and NOT by our works or by keeping the Old Testament Law.

- **Ephesians 2:8-9** "For by _____ you have been saved through _____, and that _____ of yourselves, it is the _____ of God; _____ of _____, lest anyone should boast."
- **Romans 4:5-8** "But to him who does not _____ (trying to earn salvation) but _____ on Him who _____ the ungodly, his _____ is _____ for _____. Just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God _____ apart from _____: 'Blessed are those whose lawless _____ are _____, and whose _____ are covered; blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall NOT _____ sin.'"
- **Romans 9:31-32** "But _____, pursuing the law of _____, has not attained to the law of _____. Why? Because they did not seek it by _____, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they _____ at that stumbling _____."
- **Romans 10:1-4** "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for _____ is that they may be _____. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for _____, but _____ according to _____. For they being _____ of God's _____, and seeking to establish their own _____, have _____ submitted to the righteousness of _____. For _____ is the _____ of the _____ for righteousness to every one who _____."

Definition: "Eagerly wait for the HOPE of RIGHTEOUSNESS by FAITH" - We are made righteous in Christ the moment we believe in Him and are saved, but the "hope of righteousness" is our waiting for the time when it is fulfilled in our lives (sanctification). **In other words, God sees me as righteous in Christ, but I DON'T always ACT righteous. What we are waiting for is the "hope" of a life where we LIVE and ACT in complete righteousness, just like Jesus.** That will come as we grow in Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to "sanctify" us (make us holy in our conduct). Ultimately, our complete sanctification will occur **when we receive our resurrection bodies.** The Rapture of the Church, when God catches up of all Believers in Christ and we receive our resurrection bodies, is also called **"The BLESSED HOPE."**

- **Titus 2:13** "Looking for the _____ and glorious _____ of our great God and _____ Jesus Christ."
- **Romans 8:23** "And not only they, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves _____ within ourselves, eagerly _____ for the adoption, the _____ of our _____."
- **Ephesians 1:14** "Which is the guarantee (pledge) of our _____ until the _____ of the _____ possession, unto the praise of His glory."
- **Philippians 3:20-21** "For our citizenship is in _____, from which we also _____ wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will _____ our lowly _____ that it may be conformed to (made the same as) His glorious _____, according to the working by which He is able to subdue _____ things to Himself."

Definition: "REDEMPTION of our BODY" - When we receive our RESURRECTION BODY. Our SPIRIT within us is BORN AGAIN and made NEW, but we feel "naked" without the corresponding NEW SPIRITUAL BODY. (See **Genesis 3:9-11** and **I Cor. 15:35-57**)

- **II Corinthians 5:1-4** "For we know that if our _____ house, this tent (our PHYSICAL BODY), is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we _____, earnestly desiring to be _____ with our _____ which is from _____, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent _____, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by _____."

Definition: "IF there had been a LAW given which COULD have GIVEN LIFE, RIGHTEOUSNESS would have been by the LAW" - The Law of Moses could not make a person righteous, or give them eternal life. I heard J. Vernon McGee say that no one was saved by the law during the time the Law of Moses was in effect. They were still saved by grace, through their FAITH, but as it were, saved on credit. Just as if you bought something with a credit card, the bill would finally come due, and **SOMEONE would have to PAY for it. Jesus Christ PAID for the SINS of the Old Testament Believers when He died on the cross, just as he paid for our sins. By FAITH in GOD, as they kept the law given to them (and NO ONE could keep it perfectly) and BELIEVED in the COMING Messiah, the Old Testament Jews were putting their salvation on hold, or on credit, until Christ would come and cry out from the cross, "It is finished - PAID IN FULL!"**

- **John 19:28-30** "After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now _____, that the _____ might be _____, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when _____ had received the sour wine, He said, "_____ is _____!" And bowing His head, He _____ up His _____."
- **Romans 3:21-24 & 28** "But now the _____ of God _____ from the _____ is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the _____ of God which is through _____ in Jesus Christ to all and on all who _____. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being _____ freely (as a gift) by His _____ through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Verse 28) "Therefore we conclude that a man is _____ by _____ apart from the deeds of the law."

Definition: "IT IS FINISHED!" - The Greek word is "**Tetelestai**" which means **literally, PAID IN FULL**. It is the same word that would be used when someone paid a bill or **paid off a debt of any kind - PAID in FULL**. Just before Jesus cried out, "It is finished!" He cried, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" This cry was a fulfillment of Psalm 22, and what it means is that Christ at that moment was experiencing the abandonment and despair that resulted from **the outpouring of God's WRATH on Him as our SIN-bearer**. Jesus had become sin for the whole world, and God cannot look on sin! **Jesus PAID our SIN DEBT** as He hung and suffered on that cross, and God's wrath was poured out on Him instead of on us. When it was finished, He said "Paid in full!"

- **II Corinthians 5:21** "For He (God the Father) made Him (Jesus) who knew no _____ to _____ sin for us, that _____ might become the _____ of God in _____."