

FREE AT LAST! THE MESSAGE OF GALATIANS
May 6, 2010

The Crucial Gospel: Galatians 6:11-18

- 6:11 **I. The Gospel is a Big Deal.**
 “See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!”
 cf. Gal. 1:6, 8, 9; 2:11; 3:1, 3; 4:9, 10, 15, 16, 19, 20, 24; 5:2, 7, 12
- :12-14 **II. The Gospel is a Big Boast.**
 cf. Psa. 34:2; 96:3; Jer. 9:23, 24
- :12, 13 A. False gospels elicit boasting in the flesh.
:12a 1. Focused on outward impression.
 “Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised.”
 cf. Phil. 3:2-6; Romans 2:28, 29; II Cor. 12:7-10
- :12b 2. Avoid persecution.
 “The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ.”
 cf. Gal. 5:11
- :13 3. Boast of converts.
 “Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh.”
 cf. Matt. 23:15
- :14 B. The true gospel elicits boasting in the cross.
 “May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ...”
 cf. I Cor. 1:18-2:12
1. The world has been crucified to me.
 “...through which the world has been crucified to me...”
 cf. I John 2:15-17
2. I have been crucified to the world.
 “...and I to the world.”
 cf. I Cor. 4:13
- :15-18 **III. The Gospel is a Big Blessing.**
- :15, 16 A. The Gospel alone brings God’s peace.
 “Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, what counts is a new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.”
 cf. John 14:27; Phil. 4:7; Col. 3:15
- :17 B. The Gospel alone distinguishes God’s people.
 “Finally, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.”
 cf. I Timothy 2:19
- :18 C. The Gospel alone communicates God’s grace.
 “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.”
 cf. Romans 3:24; Eph. 1:6; 2:4-9; Titus 3:4-7