Ministry of The Holy Spirit The End of the Matter Galatians 6:9-18

Last time...walking in the Spirit, living in the Spirit...the Gospel of Grace in action

Grace is very active Grace is Love in action Love in action is grace

There is nothing more beautiful in the eyes of God than humility There is nothing more impactful on human lives than God's Grace

Humility and Grace keep relationships strong and healthy...with God and man

For those who humble themselves before the Living God and receive His Grace, they are made new creatures and citizens of the kingdom of God

For those who self-righteously do not humble themselves before the Living God and reject/despise His Grace, they will stand alone before the Great White Throne of God Almighty to give an account of their lives...where they will bend their knee and confess with their tongue that Jesus Christ is Lord, on their way to the Lake of Fire

Unlike in our society with so many loud cries of "victimization", there will be no "victims" standing before God at the GWT, for no one has an excuse for their sin

Rom 1:18-22 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

Walking in the Spirit of Grace, living in the Spirit of Grace day-to-day in this crazy world is all about Love

The flesh and the world and the devil are continuously opposing such Christ-like living Therefore, we need perseverance

This time...to finish the Epistle...

- an exhortation to persevere
- Paul's "mic drop", the end of the matter
- v9 let us not be weary...for in due season:

In following Jesus, the Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak But in the world, the flesh is willing but the Spirit is weak!

The struggle of Gal 5:16-17...

the indwelling Spirit of Christ (fed by the Word and by the Holy Spirit) vs the flesh (fed by it lusts, the world, and the devil) gets very wearisome

Even against what seems to be crushing odds, a person with God is always in the majority

We face a strenuous testing of v9 to faint not in our society/nation that is contending with God:

1. Origins

How did we get here and why are we here?

- 1. Created in the image of God...to worship Him
- 2. Evolved from primates...to eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die

Most scientists have abandoned science and embraced a worldview devoid of the Creator

Not wanting to humble themselves before the Creator and adamantly opposed to being accountable to Him, scientists have latched onto the theory of Evolution

- survival of the fittest..."natural selection"
- unimaginable periods of time
- chance...life from nothingness
- species evolving from "lower" species

Neither Creation nor Evolution are "science"

- No eyewitnesses
- Not subject to the "Scientific method"

Both are faith-based theories; only Creation is of origins

Difference: evidence

every discipline of science

- is governed by "laws...Who wrote the laws?
- produces evidence of design...by a Creator... and no evidence for Evolution

In our public schools, teaching Creation as an explanation of origins was declared unconstitutional (by a corrupted interpretation of separation of Church and State in 1968) and the theory of Evolution (NOT an explanation of origins) has been taught as irrefutable scientific fact since;

Evolution was taught to all of us, we were indoctrinated by a faithless system

If we "follow the science", as we have been hearing for the last 18 months, we will find...the Creator God of the Bible

But the vast majority of the citizens in this nation have been deceived into believing that "following the science" is unquestioningly following the scientists

To follow the science is to find the Creator God (Life) but to follow the scientists is to oppose the Living God (death)

2. Abortion..."shedding innocent blood" called "reproductive health" What is Evolution...really?

Charles Darwin's work (full title):

"The Origin of Species by means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life"

Not about species of animals, but

- man is an animal (vs Gen 1:26-27)
- superiority of races of man i.e. racist theory

Manifestations of Evolution that are a plague upon this nation and the world from this nation:

- Planned Parenthood
- Abortion, the premeditated murder of defenseless babies declared legal by the SCOTUS in 1973

According to the National Library of Medicine of the US National Institutes of Health (for over 3 decades):

- Black women have 4x the abortions of white women
- Black babies are much less likely to survive until birth...do not have an equal opportunity of life

Why is BLM not protesting outside Planned Parenthood facilities where black and brown babies are being mercilessly and horrifically murdered?!

How has "Woke" missed Evolution as the underlying culprit?

Update on the Hyde Amendment, prohibiting federal tax revenues to be used to fund abortions since 1976 but successfully removed by Congress last week in the "Infrastructure" spending bill

[Status Hyde Amendment]

3. Critical Race Theory and "Woke"

Just one example:

[American Express]

So stepping back to look at the big picture, the nation

- has taught its children to be racists (Evolution, PP, abortion)
- now condemns such racism
 (without denying Evolution and stopping PP and abortion)
- wants to implement another form of racism fueling the hatred that is so readily apparent
- 4. Fear, confusion, and pressure
 - A. Antifa, BLM, "Defund the Police" are fueled by and spread fear
 - B. In combatting a virus, the nation (Federal, State, local) has dictated public health policies that have
 - produced fear, confusion, and mounting pressure to participate in what is still a medical experiment (contrary to the Nuremburg laws and to health privacy law)
 - not produced clarity or peace

C. [AMA]

Our society is being driven by fear and confusion and pressure These do not come from the Lord

1 Cor 14:33

2 Tim 1:7

Clarity, peace, and hope come from God, by-products of Truth

This "social mix" is bearing down on the Church, testing our resolve to v9 in contending for the faith

Oh how we need the Word of God to encourage us and the Holy Spirit to empower us and guide us!!!

So let us persevere in obedience to the indwelling Spirit of God! We will reap a reward in the perfect time, which we march towards one day at a time

Perhaps you have felt like "throwing in the towel"! It is always too soon to quit! "Quit" comes from the flesh, the world, and the devil!

v10 let us do good...household of faith:

The current state of affairs is beyond upsetting, even depressing and debilitating But when you are beaten down by the flesh, the world, and the devil, a very effective strategy to "get Satan behind you" is to serve someone else; the pity party will come to a screeching halt!

Before taking a pill to fight depression, to snap out of a funk, try serving the Lord by serving someone else (well doing) and see what God Himself does to your depression

As ambassadors of Christ and witnesses of Jesus Christ, loving Him and loving others as ourselves, let us work to the benefit of someone else when He gives us occasion to be His touch point of mercy/help... particularly those in the household of faith

- the children of God, His Temple on earth today (Eph 2:19-22)
- the Church
- the local church

The Church is

- not a building or a campus, it is a people
- not a business enterprise, it is an organism with Christ has the Head

As such, the Church is about the building and growing of relationships, the center and foundation of which is Jesus Christ

The building blocks of those relationships are God's love and grace...
received and given as freely as received

Case in point: Men's Breakfast on Monday mornings

This verse is not about "doing church", it is about "being church"

- loving each other
- serving each other
- helping each other (v1-2)
- being witnesses of Jesus Christ to each other

Are you weary of the struggle in the flesh and in the world?

Love someone else Serve someone else Help someone else Persevere and...be the church

Paul now wraps up this Epistle by giving the End of the Matter (v11-18)

v11 large letters...mine own hand:

First he points out the authenticity of it being from an apostle by Jesus Christ and God the Father (Gal 1:1) – the size of the letters written speak to his thorn in the flesh (his eyes, Gal 4:13-15)

In so doing he subtly distinguished himself from those who came in unawares after him and are troubling them now (Gal 1:7), who are...

v12-13 make a fair shew...constrain you...they may glory:

The false teachers (self-righteous religious zealots) have determined to

- make a good appearance, put on a good "show" for these churches (1 Sam 16:7)
- compel/pressure the Galatians to become Jews... keep the Law and get circumcised... work for their salvation (vs Paul's Gospel and 2 Cor 5:14a)
- compromised/perverted the Gospel to avoid persecution by their own people (1 Cor 1:23)...they do not want to participate in the sufferings of Christ or know the profound fellowship with Christ for doing so (as recorded in 2 "prison letters", Phil and 2 Tim)

Phil 1:29 Phil 3:7-11 2 Tim 2:11-12 2 Tim 3:10-12

They tell you to get circumcised and to keep the Law... which they have not kept themselves (hypocrites!)

They want you in bondage to the Law, kept under the curse of the Law, so they can self-righteously boast of you as "converts to their religion"

v14-15 glory, save in the Cross:

They are afraid of the Cross of Christ, because it offends the Jews and stirs them to persecution

I glory/boast in the Cross of Christ, the altar upon which the Father's sin sacrifice was offered for my sins, making me reconciled with God!

I have no worth apart from the Cross,

I have infinite worth because of the Cross!

By the Cross I am dead to the world and the world is dead to me!

The world holds no attraction to me; it is dying right in front of me
But at the Cross my Creator offers me Life, Light, and Love

The Cross is the end of Self and the beginning of God

The Cross of Christ...and the empty tomb of Christ...is my salvation from the wages of sin...by grace thru faith and not by works

Rom 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

1 Cor 1:23-24 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God

2 Cor 4:5-10

And "in Christ" neither circumcision of the flesh nor uncircumcision of the flesh counts for anything!

Circumcision cannot save, only Jesus can save

Eph 2:11-16

Circumcision is of the heart, whereby we are made new creatures...

born again of the Spirit of God, by grace thru faith and not by works 2 Cor 5:17-21

In Christ is liberation from the sin nature and the curse of the Law!

v16-17 walk according to this rule...I bear in my body:

To whosoever "marches, keeps in step with" this standard/banner (The Gospel of Grace, The Law of Liberty that yields Love), peace and mercy be upon them, the Israel of God

NOT a proclamation of "Replacement Theology" by Paul!

Rom 9-11

Rom 9:6b-8

For they *are* not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, *are they* all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

Gal 3:6-9, 14, 29

And let no man (self-righteous Judaizer) give me any more trouble —
I bear the scars of the Lord Jesus in my body, they don't

Darkness always persecutes the Light/Truth

Scars being the evidence of persecution against the Truth

They do not preach the Truth so they have no scars in their bodies

The "mic drop" of Authenticity...which feeds right into Paul's other letter recorded while in Ephesus – 1 Corinthians

v18 grace:

1st word = grace (1:3) last word = grace

Alpha and Omega: grace

Summary

The Epistle to the Galatians is a defense of the Gospel of Grace, the Gospel of Christ

We are saved/justified by grace thru faith, and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works lest any man boast;

salvation from death is a gift of God to those who believe His promise We are not in bondage the Law, God's justice, that can only be satisfied with perfect obedience

Jesus Christ fulfilled the Law and redeemed us from the curse of the Law Jesus Christ is the end/completion of the Law for righteousness for those who believe The righteousness of God is by faith of Christ unto all and upon all them that believe The just shall live by faith

Self-righteousness is a perverted gospel...a misnomer, even!

Persevere and be the Church!

The environment:

2 Tim 3:12-13 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer

persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse

and worse, deceiving, and being deceived

The "protocol" from our Lord and King

2 Tim 3:14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and

hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned

them

Rom 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

While the world reels like a drunkard,

While the nation collapses around us,

The Kingdom of God stands forever

As darkness rises,

The Light shines all the brighter

As the Lord separates His people from the world before He stands up,

Be not silent!

We are the only messengers of Good News, hope, peace, love, and grace Know Jesus and make Jesus known

If you want hands laid on you in prayer, come forward