### Galatians

## Chapter 5

1Understand that the Anointed One set us free so we can truly be free!  
  
Therefore, we should be standing up straight, and not allowing ourselves to be put under the yoke of slavery [to the Jewish Law] again!  
  
  
2Look! I (Paul) am telling you that if you get circumcised, the Anointed One won’t be of any use to you!  
  
3And I again testify to every man who gets circumcised, that he’s thereafter obligated to obey the whole [Jewish] Law!  
  
4So those of you who are trying to be called ‘righteous’ by the [Jewish] Law have voided the Anointed One, and have fallen away from his loving care.  
  
5Indeed, it’s by the spirit of faith that we’re eagerly awaiting the hope of [being counted as] righteous!  
  
6As a result, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision have any value to the Anointed Jesus… Just faith that’s motivated by love!  
  
  
7Now, since you’ve been running ‘so well,’ who is it that’s trying to keep you from obeying the truth?  
  
8Ideas like this aren’t coming from the One who’s calling you! 9Rather, it’s coming from a little bit of ‘yeast’ that’s started fermenting the whole ‘ball [of dough]!’  
  
10For I’m confident that you who are in the Lord wouldn’t have even thought of such a thing. So the one who’s causing all this agitation will have to face judgment, no matter who he may be!  
  
11Brothers – if I were preaching circumcision, why am I being persecuted? [In that case], the upright [execution stake] wouldn’t be a snare [to the Jews] anymore!  
  
12Oh, I wish that those who are stirring you up would get lost!  
  
13You were called to be free, brothers!  
  
So don’t use this freedom to serve your flesh; rather, use it to slave for each other in love!  
  
14Understand that the entire [Jewish] Law is fulfilled in the words:  
  
 ‘You must love your neighbor as yourself.’ [Leviticus 19:18]  
  
15However, if you keep on snapping at each other, and chewing each other up... Be careful that you don’t swallow each other down!  
  
16I tell you this:  
  
If you’re walking by Spirit, you won’t do any of the things that your flesh desires!  
  
17For what the flesh wants is at odds with what the Spirit wants, and the Spirit is at odds with the flesh… They’re in opposition to each other, keeping you from doing the things that you may wish to do.  
  
18And if you’re being led by Spirit, you aren’t under the [Jewish] Law!  
  
19Now, we know what the flesh does...  
  
They include:  
  
 • Sexual immorality,  
 • Uncleanness,  
 • Lewdness,  
 • 20Idol worshiping,  
 • Involvement in the occult,  
 • Hatreds,  
 • Quarreling,  
 • Jealousy,  
 • Anger,  
 • Selfishness,  
 • Divisions,  
 • Sects,  
 • 21Envying,  
 • Getting drunk,  
 • Wild partying,  
  
...and things like that.  
  
I’m warning you now (as I’ve warned you before), that those who do such things won’t inherit God’s Kingdom.  
  
22On the other hand, the fruitage of the Spirit is:  
  
 • Love,  
 • Joy,  
 • Peace,  
 • Patience,  
 • Being caring,  
 • Goodness,  
 • Faith,  
 • 23Reasonableness, and  
 • Self-control,  
  
...and there are no laws against such things!  
  
24So those who belong to the Anointed Jesus have hung their flesh on the elevated [execution stake] along with its passions and desires.  
  
25And if we’re living by Spirit, we need to walk in [the ways of the] Spirit… 26We shouldn’t be conceited, or challenging or envying each other!