

New Morning Magical – for 7-25-20

Be Free!

In Galatians 5, Paul explains the importance of accepting the freedom won for us by Yeshua.

1 For freedom Christ frees us! Stand firm, then, and be not again enthralled with the yoke of slavery.

2 Lo! I, Paul, am saying to you that if you should be circumcising, Christ will benefit you nothing.

3 Now I am attesting again to every man who is circumcising, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

4 Exempted from Christ were you who are being justified in law. You fall out of grace.

5 For we, in spirit, are awaiting the expectation of righteousness by faith.

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision is availing anything, nor uncircumcision, but faith, operating through love.

7 You raced ideally! Who hinders you not to be persuaded by the truth?

8 This persuasion is not of Him Who is calling you.

11 Now I, brethren, if I am still heralding circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? Consequently the snare of the cross of Christ has been nullified.

12 Would that those who are raising you to insurrection struck themselves off also!

In this next section, Paul addresses one of the most common objections that people raise when they hear that all mankind will be saved and no one is going to hell because there isn't one.

Here's what they say, *"Well, then, what's to stop us, or anyone from doing anything we want?"*

Here is Paul's answer in verse 13:

13 For you were called for freedom, brethren, only **use not the freedom for an incentive to the flesh**, but through love be slaving for one another.

14 For the entire law is fulfilled in one word, in this: "You shall love your associate as yourself."

15 Now if you are biting and devouring one another, beware that you may not be consumed by one another.

16 Now I am saying, **Walk in spirit, and you should under no circumstances be consummating the lust of the flesh.**

The word "should" in verse 16, as in **you should under no circumstances be consummating the lust of the flesh**, can be misunderstood by us westerners. Paul is saying that when you "walk

in spirit,” you won’t get carried off by the “lusts of the flesh.” Long ago in the early to mid 70’s, rental trucks had what was called a “governor” installed that prevented them from going over 55 mph. Well, the spirit inside you acts as a kind of governor. You don’t just go off a wild romp in the flesh, because the spirit inside you convicts you. Of course, you can over ride the spirit, but why would you want to?

Paul goes on in verse 17:

17 For the flesh is lusting against the spirit, yet the spirit against the flesh. Now these are opposing one another, lest you should be doing whatever you may want.

I have never seen a way to avoid the struggle that Paul just described. I know I’ve never mastered it, and I don’t know anyone who has who is walking in spirit with the Lord. Not even Paul succeeded in conquering his flesh, as he writes in **Romans 7**:

14 For we are aware that the law is spiritual, yet I am fleshly, having been disposed of under Sin.

15 For what I am effecting I know not, for not what I will, this I am putting into practice, but what I am hating, this I am doing.

In other words, Paul is saying, *“I don’t know what I’m accomplishing here, ‘cause I’m not doing what I’m trying to do and I AM doing what I’m trying NOT to do!”* Can’t you relate to this? I sure can!

16 Now if what I am not willing, this I am doing, I am conceding that the law is ideal.

That statement sounds strange, doesn’t it? After that whole rant he went on about how the Law enslaved, but the spirit makes us free. Why is Paul saying now that the Law is ideal? Here it is: The Law is ideal if all I’m going to succeed at is doing what I don’t want, because the Law calls attention to it and makes me aware of it. But hold on, because Paul isn’t going to stop there, thankfully,

17 Yet now it is no longer I who am effecting it, but Sin making its home in me.

18 For I am aware that good is not making its home in me (**that is, in my flesh**), for to will is lying beside me, yet to be effecting the ideal is not.

19 For it is not the good that I will that I am doing, but the evil that I am not willing, this I am putting into practice.

20 Now if what I am not willing, this I am doing, it is no longer I who am effecting it, but

Sin which is making its home in me.

21 Consequently, I am finding the law that, at my willing to be doing the ideal, the evil is lying beside me.

22 For I am gratified with **the law of God as to the man within,**

23 yet I am observing a different law in my members, warring with the law of my mind, and leading me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 A wretched man am I! **What** will rescue me out of this body of death? **Grace!**

25 I thank God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Consequently, then, I myself, with the mind, indeed, am slaving for God's law, yet with the flesh for Sin's law.

This is such a good description of the struggle we face as humans – saved, yes, but fragile, mistake-prone humans all the same. And GRACE is the one means of rescue and, I may add, the truth of the conciliation, where God stopped reckoning our offenses to us. In addition, we received justification through Christ, as we explored yesterday. We are, therefore, relieved of the condemnation that could accompany our struggle between flesh and spirit, even though we yet struggle between them.

Now back to Galatians 5:

18 Now, if you are led by spirit, you are not still under law.

19 Now apparent are the works of the flesh, which are adultery, prostitution, uncleanness, wantonness,

20 idolatry, enchantment, enmities, strife, jealousies, furies, factions, dissensions, sects,

21 envies, murders, drunkennesses, revelries, and the like of these, which, I am predicting to you, according as I predicted also, that those committing such things shall not be enjoying the allotment of the kingdom of God.

22 Now the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 meekness, self-control: against such things there is no law.

24 Now those of Christ Jesus crucify the flesh together with its passions, and lusts.

25 If we may be living in spirit, in spirit we may be observing the elements also.

26 We may not become vainglorious, challenging one another, envying one another.

Chapter 6

1 Brethren, if a man should be precipitated, also, in some offense, you, who are spiritual, be **attuning** such a one, in a spirit of meekness, noting yourself, that you, also, may not be tried.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and thus fill up the law of Christ.

3 For if anyone is supposing himself to be anything, being nothing, he is imposing on himself.

7 Be not deceived, God is not to be sneered at, for **whatsoever a man may be sowing, this shall he be reaping also,**

8 for he who is sowing for his own flesh, from the flesh shall be reaping corruption, yet he who is sowing for the spirit, from the spirit shall be reaping life eonian.

Verses 7 and 8 express the essence of choices and consequences, sowing and reaping, from flesh into corruption or spirit into life eonian. It would seem such a simple choice were it not for the fact that we are flesh and blood living in a wicked eon.

9 Now we may not be despondent in ideal doing, for in due season we shall be reaping, if we do not faint.

10 Consequently, then, as we have occasion, we are working for the good of all, yet specially for the family of faith.

11 Lo! with what size letters I write to you with my own hand!

12 Whoever are wanting to **put on a fair face in the flesh**, these are compelling you to circumcise only **that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ Jesus.**

13 For ***not even they who are circumcising are maintaining law***, but they want you to be circumcised that they should be boasting in that flesh of yours.

People get some squirrely agendas going, don't they? The Judaizers that Paul is talking about here, just wanted to LOOK good in front of their Jewish brethren; yet, they weren't even maintaining the Law themselves. It's such a twisted logic that Paul exposed.

14 Now may it not be mine to be boasting, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but **a new creation. – *That's new!***

16 And whoever shall observe the elements by this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, also on the Israel of God.

“Observing the elements” refers to observing the Law. Now, I know that Paul just got done sending the Law out the door, but what He also says, “by this rule,” meaning to the extent that you and I have been crucified to the world and the world to us, thereby making us a new creation, we may automatically observe the Law, by default, because we ARE new creations. In

other words, we may just do right simply because Christ lives in us and we ARE new! Well that works!

17 For the rest, let no one afford me weariness, for I am bearing in my body the brand marks of the Lord Jesus Christ. [*"Gimme a break you guys!"*]

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren! Amen!

And there ends Paul's first epistle. And that's a good place to end for today.

Now, remember, we'll be sending you a link to one of the Light Up the Scriptures recordings. I think it will be about Justification, since we looked at that just yesterday, and it is such a powerful revelation from Yeshua's hand-picked Apostle. I think you'll enjoy listening to that.

Otherwise, we'll be back on Monday with more explorations into Paul's writings; so until then . . .

May Yahweh bless you and keep you;
May Yahweh light up His face toward you
and be gracious to you;
May Yahweh lift His face to you
and appoint peace for you.
AMEN