

Church Discipline and Grace

September 13, 2015

Galatians 6:1–4

1 Brethren, if a man be **OVERTAKEN** (*caught*) in a **FAULT** (*transgression*), ye which are **SPIRITUAL, RESTORE** (*get ready, equip, mend, put back into place*) **such an one in the spirit of MEEKNESS** (*gentleness, mildness of disposition*); **considering thyself, LEST THOU ALSO BE TEMPTED.**

2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

HOW I RELATE TO GOD IS HOW I WILL RELATE TO OTHERS - WITH GRACE OR WITH LEGALISM.

GRACE	LEGALISM
<p style="text-align: center;">Relationship-based</p> <p><i>Focus is entirely on knowing Jesus in personal relationship and fellowship, and my relationship with God never has and never will be based upon my performance.</i></p> <p><i>There is a deliberate intellectual dismissal of self-initiated rules, obligations, religious acts and disciplines.</i></p> <p><i>The actions that follow are performed for the sole motive and desire to know Jesus, which makes the action a joy and delight, not an obligation or rule.</i></p> <p><i>Grace extends unconditional love to the person (with a hatred for the sin).</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Performance-based</p> <p><i>The performance of certain actions for the sake of performing the actions. My status before God depends upon my performance.</i></p> <p><i>Based upon the assumption (misconception) that the performance of certain actions will bring results or produce a certain status.</i></p> <p><i>Biblical or Christian actions, performed to mimic holiness, but without personal relationship to Jesus Christ, are dead, religious works which produce self-righteousness, spiritual pride and legalistic bondage.</i></p> <p><i>The love of legalism is conditional.</i></p>

Galatians 6:12–13

12 As many as desire to **MAKE A FAIR SHEW IN THE FLESH, THEY CONSTRAIN** (*necessitate, compel, force*) **YOU** to be circumcised; only **LEST THEY SHOULD SUFFER PERSECUTION FOR THE CROSS OF CHRIST.**

13 For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that **THEY MAY GLORY IN YOUR FLESH.**

Performance-based legalism:

- "...fair shew in the flesh..." Focus is on performance, not relationship.

- “...they constrain you...” Coercion is used to manipulate individuals into compliance.
- “...lest they should suffer persecution...” Fear of man and man-pleasing motives dominate.
- “...glory in your flesh...” Take great pride in the compliance of their disciples.

Philippians 3:4-10

4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7 **BUT WHAT THINGS WERE GAIN TO ME, THOSE I COUNTED LOSS FOR CHRIST.**

8 Yea doubtless, and I **COUNT ALL THINGS BUT LOSS FOR THE EXCELLENCY OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST JESUS MY LORD: FOR WHOM I HAVE SUFFERED THE LOSS OF ALL THINGS, AND DO COUNT THEM BUT DUNG, THAT I MAY WIN CHRIST,**

9 **AND BE FOUND IN HIM, NOT HAVING MINE OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, WHICH IS OF THE LAW, BUT THAT WHICH IS THROUGH THE FAITH OF CHRIST, THE RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS OF GOD BY FAITH:**

10 **THAT I MAY KNOW HIM, AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF HIS SUFFERINGS, BEING MADE CONFORMABLE UNTO HIS DEATH.**

Galatians 5:2-6

2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, **THAT IF YE BE CIRCUMCISED, CHRIST SHALL PROFIT YOU NOTHING.**

3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

4 **CHRIST IS BECOME OF NO EFFECT UNTO YOU, WHOSEVER OF YOU ARE JUSTIFIED BY THE LAW; YE ARE FALLEN FROM GRACE.**

5 **FOR WE THROUGH THE SPIRIT WAIT FOR THE HOPE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH.**

6 **FOR IN JESUS CHRIST NEITHER CIRCUMCISION AVAILETH ANY THING, NOR UNCIRCUMCISION; BUT FAITH WHICH WORKETH BY LOVE.**

GRACE	LEGALISM
<p>Focuses on Heart Condition - Seeks to Restore</p> <p><i>The care and concern is for the person’s heart, soul and life condition, not the appearance or status in the eyes of man.</i></p> <p><i>The existence and elimination of evil is the focus, not the appearance. Cleansing at the root level is desired and sought.</i></p>	<p>Focuses on Appearance - Seeks to Punish</p> <p><i>Focuses on how someone or something appears or will be perceived with little or no concern for the individual’s eternal state or condition.</i></p> <p><i>The appearance of evil is the focus. Hypocrisy is crafted to hide the true nature of the heart. Inward cleansing is not desired or sought.</i></p>

Matthew 23:25–28

25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for YE MAKE CLEAN THE OUTSIDE of the cup and of the platter, but WITHIN THEY ARE FULL OF EXTORTION AND EXCESS.

26 Thou blind Pharisee, CLEANSE FIRST THAT WHICH IS WITHIN the cup and platter, THAT THE OUTSIDE OF THEM MAY BE CLEAN ALSO.

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto WHITED SEPULCHRES, WHICH INDEED APPEAR BEAUTIFUL OUTWARD, BUT ARE WITHIN FULL OF DEAD MEN'S BONES, AND OF ALL UNCLEANNESS.

28 EVEN SO YE ALSO OUTWARDLY APPEAR RIGHTEOUS UNTO MEN, BUT WITHIN YE ARE FULL OF HYPOCRISY AND INIQUITY.

John 8:3–11

3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,

4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.

5 **NOW MOSES IN THE LAW COMMANDED US, THAT SUCH SHOULD BE STONED: BUT WHAT SAYEST THOU?**

6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.

9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, **WOMAN, WHERE ARE THOSE THINE ACCUSERS? HATH NO MAN CONDEMNED THEE?**

11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, NEITHER DO I CONDEMN THEE: GO, AND SIN NO MORE.

Luke 22:31-34

31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

32 **BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR THEE, THAT THY FAITH FAIL NOT: AND WHEN THOU ART CONVERTED, STRENGTHEN THY BRETHREN.**

33 And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.

34 And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

Matthew 9:1–13

1 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; **THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE.**

3 And, behold, **CERTAIN OF THE SCRIBES SAID WITHIN THEMSELVES, THIS MAN BLASPHEMETH.**

4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

5 For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

6 **BUT THAT YE MAY KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HATH POWER ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS, (THEN SAITH HE TO THE SICK OF THE PALSY,) ARISE, TAKE UP THY BED, AND GO UNTO THINE HOUSE.**

7 And he arose, and departed to his house.

8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, **MANY PUBLICANS AND SINNERS CAME AND**

SAT DOWN WITH HIM AND HIS DISCIPLES.

11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, **WHY EATETH YOUR MASTER WITH PUBLICANS AND SINNERS?**

12 But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

13 **BUT GO YE AND LEARN WHAT THAT MEANETH, I WILL HAVE MERCY, AND NOT SACRIFICE: FOR I AM NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS TO REPENTANCE.**

GRACE	LEGALISM
<p align="center">Leaves Decisions to the Individual</p> <p align="center"><i>By leaving the decision to the individual, it forces the individual to seek the heart, mind and will of Christ. It eliminates the temptation and the shortcut looking to a man for the decision.</i></p>	<p align="center">Dictates the Decisions for the Individual</p> <p align="center"><i>Dictating the decision for others usurps the Lordship of Jesus in their hearts and lives, robbing them of the joy and liberty of living for Jesus.</i></p>

John 6:60–67

60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, **THIS IS AN HARD SAYING; WHO CAN HEAR IT?**

61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, **DOTH THIS OFFEND YOU?**

62 What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?

63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

64 But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.

65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

66 **FROM THAT TIME MANY OF HIS DISCIPLES WENT BACK, AND WALKED NO MORE WITH HIM.**

67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, **WILL YE ALSO GO AWAY?**

2 Corinthians 1:23–2:2

23 Moreover I call God for a record upon my soul, that to spare you I came not as yet unto Corinth.

24 Not for that we have **DOMINION** (*to be lord of, to rule over*), **OVER YOUR FAITH, BUT ARE HELPERS** (*a fellow worker*) **OF YOUR JOY: FOR BY FAITH YE STAND.**

1 But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness.

2 For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me?

2 Corinthians 1:24 ESV

"Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith."