

# GALATIANS

**Gospel Wisdom  
For  
Gospel Freedom**

For you were called to freedom,  
brothers. Only do not use your  
freedom as an opportunity for the  
flesh, but through love serve one  
another. For the whole law is fulfilled  
in one word: "You shall love your  
neighbor as yourself." But if you bite  
and devour one another, watch out  
that you are not consumed by one  
another.

Galatians 5:13-15

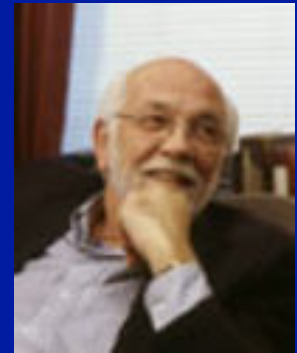
For you were called to freedom,  
brothers.

For freedom Christ has set us free;  
stand firm therefore, and do not  
submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1

The only people who get better are people who know that, if they never get better, God will love them anyway.

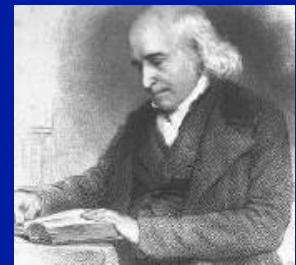
– Steve Brown



For you were called to freedom,  
brothers. Only **do not use your  
freedom as an opportunity for  
the flesh**

The mad man who has mistaken his tattered garments for the flowing robes of majesty, and his manacles for golden bracelets studded with jewels, has not erred so widely as the man who has mistaken carnal license for Christian liberty.

– John Brown





LIBERTY

Legalism

License



Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

1 Corinthians 8:8-9

Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

1 Peter 2:16

And the life I now live **in the flesh** I  
live by faith in the Son of God, who  
loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

concerning his Son, who was  
descended from David according to

**the flesh**

Romans 1:3

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my **flesh**. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

Romans 7:18

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the **flesh**

Galatians 5:16

but through love serve one another.

We are called to love not because other people are empty and need love (to feel better about themselves) but because love is the way in which we imitate Christ and bring glory to God.

– Ed Welch

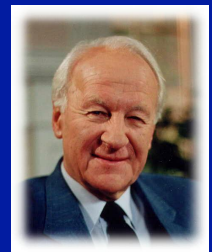


By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

1 John 3:16-17

A person's life is his most precious possession. Consequently, to rob him of it is the greatest sin we can commit against him, while to give one's own life on his behalf is the greatest possible expression of love for him. This, then, is the ultimate contrast: Cain's hatred issued in murder, Christ's love issued in self-sacrifice.

– John Stott



For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."



And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this:

'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

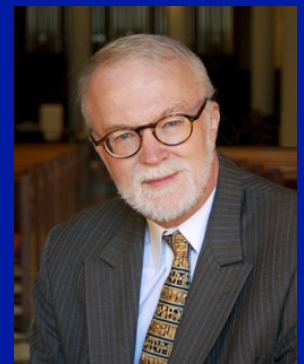
Mark 12:30-31

So whatever you wish that others  
would do to you, do also to them, for  
this is the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12

Why did Paul call the selfless love of neighbor the fulfilling of the whole law? Not because it is superior to the worship and adoration of God, but rather because it is the proof of it.

– Timothy George



Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Romans 13:10-11

A rigid matter was the law,  
demanding brick, denying straw,  
But when with gospel tongue it sings,  
it bids me fly and gives me wings  
– Ralph Erskine



But if you **bite** and **devour** one another, watch out that you are not **consumed** by one another.

For I fear that perhaps when I come I  
may find you not as I wish, and that  
you may find me not as you wish—  
that perhaps there may be quarreling,  
jealousy, anger, hostility, slander,  
gossip, conceit, and disorder.

2 Corinthians 12:20

Most people think freedom is to be free from responsibility so that I may live for myself. But that isn't freedom.

That's bondage to my own self-centeredness. True freedom is to be set free from my silly little self in order to give myself in love to God and my fellow human beings.

- John Stott

