

Rhythms of Grace

“Run From Legalism”

4.25.10 www.stonecreekwired.com

“When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, ‘You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?’ I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!” Gal 2:11-14, 21 NIV

1. **Legalism is** _____.

2. **Legalism leads to** _____.

“This matter arose because some false brothers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves. We did not give in to them for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might remain with you.” Gal 2:4-5 NIV

3. **Legalism** _____.

Anything and everything that minimizes or diminishes the freedom-giving grace of God that comes through Jesus Christ. **Dr. Charles Brown**

Signposts of legalism:

● **Breeds** _____. *The other Jews joined him (Peter) in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. Gal 2:13 NIV*

● **Obsessed with** _____.

● **Fakes** _____.

After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? Gal. 3:3 NIV

SELF-LED PEOPLE

-spiritually stiff
-emotionally rigid
-mentality inflexible
-non-spontaneous
-critical, petty
-self righteous
-controlling
-sick with rigor mortis

SPIRIT-LED PEOPLE

-creative servants
-peaceful & peacemaker
-free inside & out
-compassionate, merciful
-truthful without malice
-forgiving & fun
-full of grace
-obedient yet

of the soul

spontaneous in their souls

Confession of Freedom

"In Jesus I am free from slavery to sin. I am free to love God. I am free to serve God. In Jesus I am free from the opinions of others. I am free from the expectations of others. In Jesus I am free to follow the Holy Spirit's directions. In Jesus I am free from the shame of the past. I am free from the guilt of my sin. Thank God Almighty I am free! Amen."

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Gal 5:1 NIV

● Trashes _____.

"Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ."

Gal. 3:1-2 JBPT

● Carries a _____. *"All who rely on observing the law are under a curse." Gal 3:10 NIV*

Wrap up: *"Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage." Gal. 5:1 NKJV*

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free!" 5:1a NIV

"In this freedom Christ has made us free—completely liberated us; stand fast then, and do not be hampered and held ensnared and submit again to a yoke of slavery—which you have once put off." 5:1 AMP

"You, my brothers, were called to be free!" 5:13 AMP

Grace = divine influence upon your heart - sustaining influence - what God does!

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Phi 1:6 NIV

"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." Phil 2:13 NKJV

"...Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is God's energy, an energy deep within you..." Phil 2:13 MSG

Next Steps: [1] Attend DL [2] Take a missions step of faith.

Translations: NIV=New International Version, JBPT=JB Phillips Translation, NKJV=New King James Version, AMP=Amplified Bible, MSG=The Message