

Discover the New Testament – Galatians 4

May 30, 2012 | mediaatvictory.com/series/discoverthent

Galatians 5:1-3 – ¹ **Stand** fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. ² Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised (*seek righteousness through the law*), Christ will profit you nothing. ³ And I testify again to every man who **becomes circumcised** (*seeks righteousness through the law*) that he is a **debtor to keep the whole law**.

The liberty that we possess in Christ must be stood for.

We must refuse to be entangled in the yoke of bondage that self-righteousness creates.

When we seek to gain right standing with God through the law, we have become indebted to fulfill ALL OF THE LAW OF GOD in order to obtain righteousness.

Galatians 5:7-9 – ⁷ You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? ⁸ This persuasion (*righteousness through the law*) does not come from Him who calls you. ⁹ A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

“You ran well” or, they started off right and got off track.

If any part of our walk with God is based upon our efforts or works of righteousness, it will ultimately work through the entirety of our lives.

The law is designed to bring condemnation and reveal the separation between God and man.

Any attempt to live “under the law” will work through your entire life and ultimately drive you away from God.

It will hinder you from obeying the truth!

Galatians 5:13-14 – ¹³ For you, brethren, have been **called to liberty**; only **do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh**, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” We are free from the law being our way of righteousness, but we aren’t free from “living righteously.”

Love is the fulfillment of the law!

Romans 13:8-10 – ⁸ Owe no one anything except to love one another, for **he who loves another has fulfilled the law**. ⁹ For the commandments, “You shall not commit

adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are **all summed up** in this saying, namely, "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**"¹⁰ **Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.** We are called to fulfill the "spirit of the law," while rejecting the law as a way to obtain right standing with God.

Galatians 6:1-2 – ¹Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, sin or fault, **you who are spiritual** restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Why aren't we seeing more of our ministers restored?

Galatians 6:6-9 – ⁶ Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.** ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in **due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.**

Right after establishing that righteousness isn't obtained by the works of the law, Paul gives instructions for righteous living.

Paul even connects our receiving from God to our choices, sowing, and steadfastness of faith.

Instructions for righteous living that aren't connected to obtaining righteousness are throughout the New Testament.

Colossians 3:5-10 – ⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices

Ephesians 4:31-32 – ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Galatians 5:19-21 – ¹⁹ The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 6:15 – For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

All that matters is connected to whether or not you have become a new creation in Christ Jesus!