



A Study in Galatians

What do I need to do to live like a child of God?

➤In other words, "How do I grow"?

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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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? 4 Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it?

<sup>5</sup> I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ.

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"After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own effort?" Vs. 3

Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— <sup>6</sup> just as Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"?

<sup>7</sup>Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup>And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify<sup>[c]</sup> the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." <sup>9</sup>So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

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<sup>10</sup> For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." <sup>11</sup> Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." <sup>13</sup> Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. (Galatians 3:5-14)

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<sup>28</sup> For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. <sup>29</sup> But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God. (Romans 2:28)

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<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.[a]

How does this help in my Christian Growth?

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- "Once I am saved, how do I grow in the faith, love & trust?"
- First, there is the road of reckless behavior.
- The other extreme is like the Rabbi's.
- This is not so much Abraham *proving* his faith, it is Abraham *living out* his faith!
- Here is the conclusion:
- "as long as I have the Lord I have everything that I need".

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- <sup>21</sup> Then I realized that my heart was bitter, and I was all torn up inside.
- <sup>22</sup> I was so foolish and ignorant—
- I must have seemed like a senseless animal to you.
- <sup>23</sup> Yet I still belong to you; you hold my right hand.

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- <sup>24</sup> You guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny. <sup>25</sup> Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire you more than anything on earth. <sup>26</sup> My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak,
- but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever. (Psalm 73:21-26)

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# Has the Lord not given me **EVERYTHING** that I need?



