

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

05/22/2022

## The Nature of Christian Freedom Galatians 5:1 – 15

## Section Review

### God Frees and Redeems Liberating Letters

- **5/1: Romans 6:1-14;** Paul implores believers to live their lives according to the freedom they now have in Christ Jesus
- **5/8: Romans 8:18-30;** Paul implores believers to live by the Spirit of God which aids to conform believers into the image of the Son
- **5/15: Galatians 3:15-29;** Paul explains the meaning of the Law and how the true Seed of Abraham fulfills the Abrahamic Covenant

05/22/2022

# Background

- At beginning of the Church, there was a debate and conflict between Jewish Christians (called Judaizers) and Gentile Christians over the issue of circumcision
- The Judaizers believed Gentiles must not only profess Christ as their Savior, but also that they must be circumcised in keeping with the Abrahamic Covenant(**Genesis 17**) and the Mosaic Law (**Leviticus 12:2-3**)
- Paul tried to be a diplomat between the Jewish and Gentile believers – often warding off the controversy around Jewish Christians (**Romans 3:1-2; Acts 16:1-5** (Paul had Timothy circumcised)) even after the matter was settled at the Council at Jerusalem (**Acts 15:1-29**)

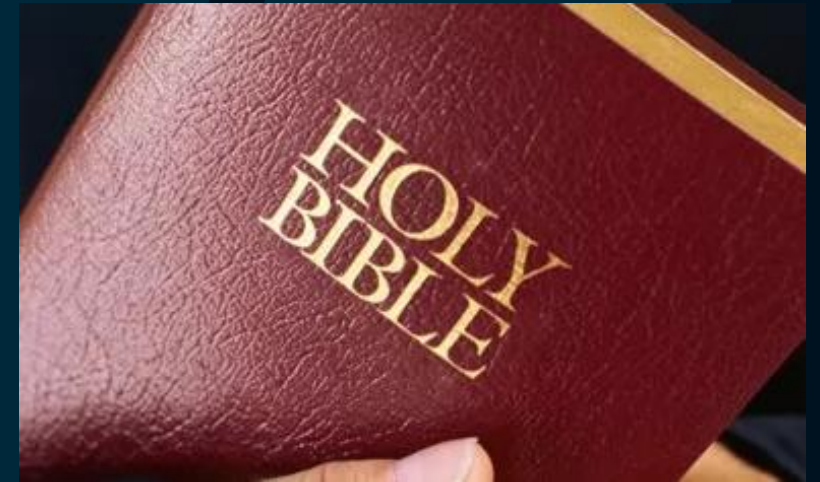
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# Lesson Text

Christian Liberty

## GALATIANS 5:1 – 3 (NKJV)

**5** Stand<sup>[a]</sup> fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. <sup>2</sup> Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. <sup>3</sup> And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is <sup>[b]</sup>a debtor to keep the whole law.



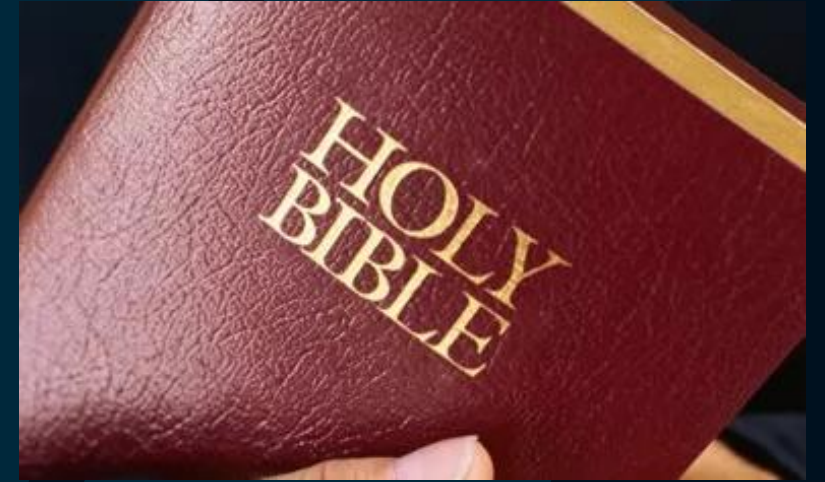
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# Lesson Text

Christian Liberty

## GALATIANS 5:4 – 6 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. <sup>5</sup> For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. <sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.



05/22/2022

# Commentary: Slaves to the Law

- In **Romans 8:2-3**, Paul emphasized that those who try to save themselves by following the Laws of Moses will be condemned to death by them. The Laws cannot save because our flesh is too weak to follow them
- Yet the Jewish Christians still hung onto it as they were familiar – just as those who came out of Egypt held on to their old ways. Those Jews died in the desert. The Jewish Christians, and the Gentiles they influenced also flirted with spiritual death by hanging on to a practice that bound them to the ENTIRE Law, which does not profit us.

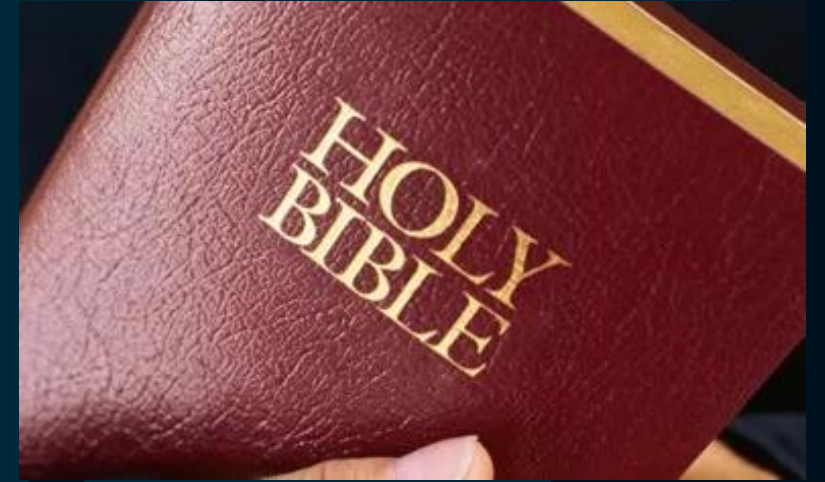
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# Lesson Text

Love Fulfills the Law

## GALATIANS 5:7 - 10 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? <sup>8</sup> This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you. <sup>9</sup> A little leaven leavens the whole lump. <sup>10</sup> I have confidence in you, in the Lord, that you will have no other mind; but he who troubles you shall bear his judgment, whoever he is.



05/22/2022

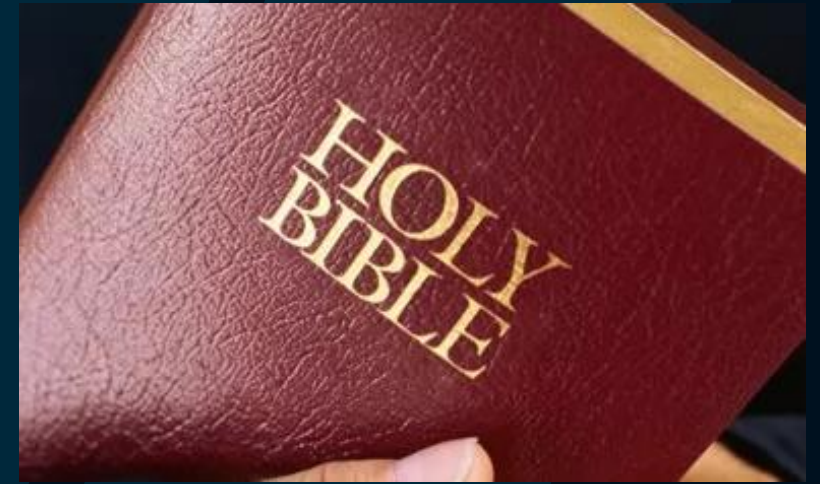
# Lesson Text

Love Fulfills the Law

## GALATIANS 5:11 - 13 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased. <sup>12</sup> I could wish that those who trouble you would even [c]cut themselves off!

<sup>13</sup> 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.



05/22/2022

# Commentary: Poor Influence

- Paul was dismayed at the Church in Galatia because although he taught them to be free in Christ, they had become bound by the practice of others – although their intentions were well-meaning
- Too often we see how other churches operate and become imitators of their practices rather than imitators of God in Christ (**Ephesians 5:1-2**).
- But we are to be led by the Spirit (**Galatians 5:18**) who will lead and guide us in all truths (**John 16:13**)

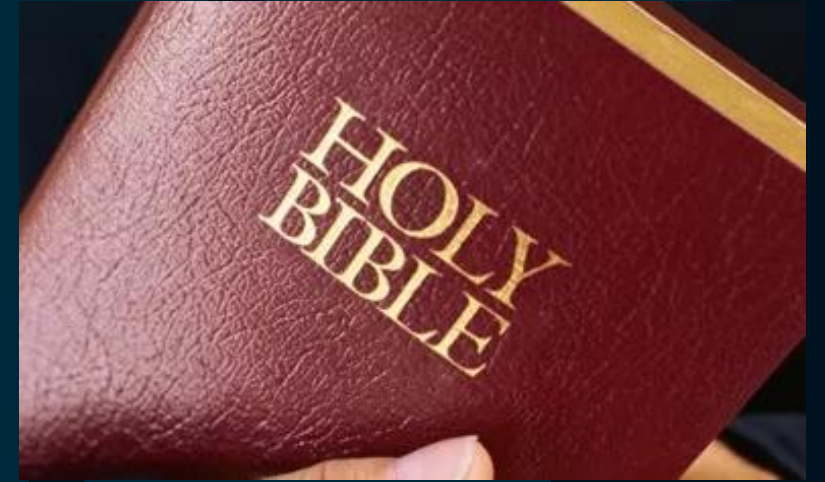


# Lesson Text

## Love Fulfills the Law

### **GALATIANS 5:14 - 15 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!



05/22/2022

# Commentary: Christian Love

***"In essentials UNITY,  
in non-essentials LIBERTY  
in all things CHARITY"***

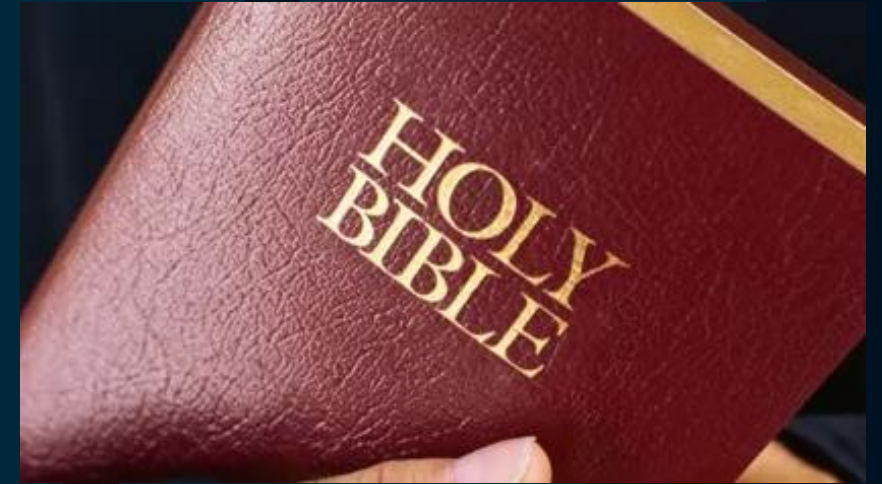
- Rupertus Meldenius (Lutheran theologian)

**Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ**

05/22/2022

By Paul T. Bennett, Church School Superintendent

# Scripture References



# Matthew 22:36 – 40

## *The Greatest Commandments*

# Church School Creed & Benediction

## CREED

Our Church School must grow & grow  
And we must help to make it so  
Every member a **Christian**  
Every Christian a **worker**  
Every worker **trained**  
A worker that **will not be ashamed**  
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

## BENEDICTION

We have come  
We have studied  
We have learned  
So until our next coming together  
To study God's word  
May His rich blessings reside with you  
And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN