



# *Paul's Epistle to Galatia*

## *Galatians 6:15-18 – A New Creation*

- **Review: Galatians 6:14 – Boasting in the Cross of Christ**
  - *But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*
  - Why should *the cross* be the only think/event in our lives in which we *should glory (boast)*?
    - Remember, to be *crucified* ↔ *world* is to be declared as dead!
  - The basis of such glorying (boasting) is the life.
    - *Rom 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*
- **Galatians 6:15 - For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.**
  - *neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything*



# *Paul's Epistle to Galatia*

## *Galatians 6:15-18 – A New Creation*

- In this entire epistle and in this chapter, Paul describes *circumcision* as a Jewish tradition, and a badge of recognition with no spiritual value to the Jew; and the lack of *circumcision* no value to the Gentile – law only!

– *For in Christ Jesus, we are a new creation.*

- Used to describe the new man regenerated in Christ
  - *2 Cor 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*
- Darby – ‘Man in the flesh is wholly gone from all relationship with God, and none can be formed: there must be a new creation.’
  - *Eph 2:10 - For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

• ***Galatians 6:16 - And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.***

- *as many as walk according to – future active indicative – why?*
  - *walk (stoicheo) – living one's life*



# Paul's Epistle to Galatia

## Galatians 6:15-18 – A New Creation

- Gal 5:16 - *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.*
- What is *this rule (kanōn)*?
  - a principle or law of investigating, judging, living, acting
    - Phil 3:16 - *however, let us keep living by that same standard (rule) to which we have attained (NASB95).*
- *peace and mercy be upon them*
  - Is this result then conditional?
    - John 16:33 - *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*
    - Jude 1:21 - *keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*
- *and (even) upon the Israel of God*
  - *What Israel is this?*
  - It's not Israel after the flesh, among whom the Judaizer wished to enroll them; but the spiritual seed of Abraham.
    - Rom2:28,29 - *For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision*



# *Paul's Epistle to Galatia*

## *Galatians 6:15-18 – A New Creation*

*that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.*

- Meyer – ‘We find ourselves at once introduced into a family of kindred spirits, who have passed through the same radical change and are united beneath the gracious canopy of mercy and peace. Such are God’s Israel.’  
–Gal 3:7 - *Therefore know only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.*

- ***Galatians 6:17 - From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.***

- *From now on let no one trouble me*

- What mood or emotion is Paul expressing here?

- *for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.*

- What *marks on his body*?

- Wuest - ‘The marks (*stigma*) of the Lord Jesus were the scars that were caused by the scourgings, the Roman rods, and the stoning at Lystra which Paul had received.’

- » *Acts 14:19.20; 2 Cor 11:25.*

- What do you think Paul mean by *bear* – pain, dysfunction, other?



# *Paul's Epistle to Galatia*

## *Galatians 6:15-18 – A New Creation*

- ***Galatians 6:18 – Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.***
  - Not an unusual benediction for Paul.
    - *Rom 16:20,24; 2 Cor 13:14; Phil 4:13; Philemon 25, 1 Thess 5:23, 2 Tim 4:22*
  - Here addressed to the *brethren* – important?
    - *Gal 4:12 - Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you. You have not injured me at all.*
  - Notice the mention of *grace, our Lord Jesus Christ.*
  - *be with your spirit*
    - Does this suggest that it will keep down the *flesh*?
  - *Amen.* - so it is, so be it, may it be fulfilled.
    - Strong – ‘It was a custom, which passed over from the synagogues to the Christian assemblies, that when he who had read or discoursed, had offered up solemn prayer to God, the others responded Amen, and thus made the substance of what was uttered their own.’



# *Paul's Epistle to Galatia*

## *Galatians 6:15-18 – A New Creation*

- *Review: Gal 6:14 – Boasting in the Cross of Christ*