

ABOVE THE LAW .

“Freedom in Boundaries”

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Old vs. New

(Galatians 4:21-5:1, page 702 in SCC Bibles)

Old Covenant → Slave → Human Attempt to Restore Relationship with God

New Covenant → Free → Christ Restored Relationship with Humanity

Freedom Given

(Galatians 5:1-6 , pg 702 in SCC Bibles)

- The New Covenant (Christ) frees us from the Old Covenant (Law)
 - We try to blend both covenants
 - By blending, we make ourselves slave to the law again
 - We can't earn God's grace
- In Christ, we have the freedom to remove the weight of the Law

Freedom Redefined

(Galatians 5:6-15, pg 702 in SCC Bibles)

- Freedom from the Law does not remove the principle of the Law
 - Faith Expressing itself in Love
- Our Freedom in Christ is to be used to serve others
1 Corinthians 10:23 You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is beneficial. 24 Don't be concerned for your own good but for the good of others.
- The Rigidity of the Law is replaced with the guiding of the Holy Spirit

“Freedom in Boundaries” – 2 of 5

Questions

1. In what ways do we blend both the Old and New Covenants in our lives? Why do we do this?
2. Why can't we earn God's grace? How does this change the way I view what Christ has done for us?
3. How does “freedom in boundaries” and “faith expressing itself in love” fit together?
4. What are some examples of faith expressing itself in love? How have I expressed my faith in love recently?

Scripture Read Luke 10:25-37

- What did Jesus mean when He said “Do this and live”?
- Why do you think the priest and the temple assistant walked by the victim and didn't help?
- What constraints bound the temple assistant and the priest that did not apply to the Samaritan?
- How does that illustrate the idea of our freedom?

Application

- In what areas of my life do I let my religion get in the way of my duty to love others?
- How will I remind myself of the freedom I have to serve others?
- What can I do this week to express my faith in love? How will the Holy Spirit help me?

Going Deeper...

For discussion or personal study

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