

A FREEDOM IN CHRIST. Galatians 5:1.

- ❖ What are we free from in Christ?
 - From sin (Romans 6:18)
 - From condemnation (Romans 8:1)
 - From the world's corruption (Galatians 1:4)
 - From the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13)
 - From idolatry (Galatians 4:8)
 - From the slavery of the law (Galatians 5:1)
 - From the devil (Hebrews 2:14)
 - From eternal death (Hebrews 2:15)
- ❖ We haven't paid for our own freedom. Jesus paid the price at the Cross (1 Corinthians 6:20; 7:23). We don't need to do anything to become free.

B FREEDOM AND LEGALISM. Galatians 5:2-12.

- ❖ Why was a little cut in the flesh so important to Paul? It seemed like an insignificant action (Galatians 5:2-12)
 - Those who were circumcised were committing to keep ALL the law to be saved (v. 3).
 - That is justification by works, so they were rejecting the justification God gives in Christ (v. 4).
 - That's a big hindrance in the way of spiritual growth (v. 7).
 - Circumcision removes the "offense" of the Cross. When you want to save yourself, the message of the Cross is offensive to human pride, because we have to acknowledge that we are completely dependent on Christ (v. 11).

C FREEDOM AND LICENTIOUSNESS. Galatians 5:13.

- ❖ "We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" (Romans 6:2 NIV).
- ❖ Instead of indulging our sins, our freedom leads us to serve [to become slaves] for love.
- ❖ If we willingly become servants [slaves] because we love our neighbor, then we're fulfilling the law (Romans 13:10).

D FREEDOM AND LAW. Galatians 5:14-15.

- ❖ Jesus made it clear: keeping the letter of the law and fulfilling the purpose of the commandment are different things (Matthew 5-7).
- ❖ Paul used the word "fulfilling" because means more than just "doing." That obedience is caused by Jesus in us.
- ❖ It is not an abandonment of the law, nor a reduction of the law only to love; it is the way through which the believer could experience the true intent and meaning of the whole law!