

Sunday School Lesson, Tuesday, August 1st, & Sunday, August 6th, 2023
by Pastor Dwight Benoit
Summer Quarter Lesson ~ June, July, and August 2023

Lesson 10 – Unit III Theme: “GOD’S Eternal Reign!”

This means, GOD alone is our Highest Priority. It is to “Be under HIS Authority,” with our permission...

Is this not The Good News (Gospel) we believe about JESUS CHRIST?

1. GOD is our CREATOR, and as such, HE has “**CREATOR Rights**” to say *What is Right, What is Wrong, and What we should or shouldn’t do* with our bodies, resources, and activities. (Genesis 1: 26-27; Revelation 4: 11)

2. Humanity has rebelled against GOD, and we seek to make our *own rules, our own plans, and even ‘gods’ after our own preferences*. The Bible calls this “*sin*.” Results, ‘broken’ relationship(s) with GOD and others, then *Judgment*. (Romans 3: 10-12; Hebrews 9: 27)

3. GOD, though within **HIS Full Rights** to simply *Judge* us, displayed **HIS Great LOVE** by sending **JESUS CHRIST** (John 3: 16); **JESUS** lived a *Perfect Life*, but was “made *sin* for us, that we might be made *The Righteousness of GOD* (2 Corinthians 5: 21); **JESUS** gave **HIS Life** upon **The Cross** as a *Substitute for our sin*, was *buried and rose from the dead*, and now *sits in Heaven at GOD’S side*. (1 Peter 3: 18)

4. This Good News requires a Response! Two, *a. Repent*, turning from *sin*, to **GOD**, with *obedience to HIS WORD, Reign, and Way!* *Believing through Faith in CHRIST* that your *sin* is forgiven and *received The Gift of The HOLY SPIRIT (HELPER) and Eternal Life*. (1 Peter 1: 3-5)
b. Reject it and continue living Life by *your own Reign* and stand-alone before **GOD** and receive *Judgment*. (John 3: 36)

Subject: “Inner Struggles!”

Text: Galatians 5: 13-26

Galatians, Chapter 5 emphasizes **CHRISTian Conduct...** the discussion about *Law* and **GRACE** is constant (which is really **GRACE** then *Law*), but *deportment* (duty) is the main theme in this Chapter. Point: *Belief affects Behavior. The Doctrine* (Teaching) of **The Gospel of GRACE** influences the ‘*better behavior*’ than the *Doctrine* of ‘mixing *Law* and **GRACE**.’

Topics...

1. Freedom – The Conduct of LOVE. (Galatians 5: 1-16)

2. Fleshless – The Contrast and The SPIRIT. (Galatians 5: 17-21)

3. Fruitful – The Character of The SPIRIT. (Galatians 5: 22-26)

- **Freedom – The Conduct of LOVE.** (Galatians 5: 1-16)

The LOVE of GOD in CHRIST JESUS needs to guide our *Conducts*. This **LOVE Liberates** (makes us Free). Where ‘*True Liberty*’ is ‘*True LOVE*’ is and vice versa. (Read 2 Corinthian 3: 17-18—If we do not believe **WHO** are in **CHRIST**, you will not be growing in **CHRIST-likeness**.)

Growth is all by **GOD’S GRACE** just as *Salvation* is.

Note...

V. 13, The Call to Freedom— “...ye have been called unto liberty...” It is The Call to Salvation.

The Gospel frees us from the bondage of *sin* unto the “glorious liberty of the children of **GOD**.”

(Romans 8: 21) V. 13, The Character of Freedom— “...use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh...” *Privileges* begets *responsibilities*. The *freedom* that *Salvation* gives from the *Law* should not be perverted into an excuse to *sin*. V. 13, “...but by love serve one another.”

Freedom gives an opportunity to help others. Beware of using *Freedom* to serve *self*.

V. 14, **LOVE’ Fulfillment** – “...all The Law is fulfilled in one word, even this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” **The Gospel** does not repudiate [disown, renounce, decline, reject]

The Law of GOD. **The Gospel** provides **LOVE** that fulfills *The Law* (Romans 13: 10)

No one Could fulfill *The Law* except **JESUS** until **HE (The Gospel)** came. If you love your neighbor, you will *not* do evil to your neighbor—surely *not* to yourself.

V. 15, The Failure without LOVE – “...ye bite and devour one another...” That’s *Sin*.

[Many leave Sunday worship and have *fried* Pastor, *fried* Deacon, *fried* Sunday School teachers, *fried* members, for Lunch. “...take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.”

[There is a *Law* that **LOVE** fulfills, Galatians 6: 7.]

V. 16, A great contrast exists between the Conduct of The SPIRIT and the Conduct of the Flesh.

The *Contract* of the *Saved* and the *Unsaved*. Our Walk – “...Walk in **The SPIRIT**, and ye shall not

fulfill the lust of *the flesh*.” Where our **CHRISTian** character is most tested is in the ordinary

round of life—our Walk. Walking in *The Way of Submission* to the leading of **The HOLY SPIRIT**

and **The WORD of GOD**. WHY? “...ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

[Reminded, *the old man* is down but not out!]

- **Fleshless – The Contrast and The SPIRIT.** (Galatians 5: 17-21)

V. 17, Constant Conflict... *The Flesh* (the old nature) and **The SPIRIT** (the new nature) ...

GOD (The SPIRIT and The WORD) encourages the good and right, while *the flesh* and Satan encourage *the conduct* that is *evil* and *wrong*.

V. 18, The Doctrine of The SPIRIT – “If ye be led of **The SPIRIT**...” Your *conduct* will not come under the *condemnation* of *The Law*.

Vss. 19-21, The Conduct of the Flesh. Principles of evils... Appetite sin(s) – Adultery, fornication, uncleanness [immoral vileness, including homosexuality, lewdness in sexual conduct.

Lasciviousness, lack of restraint, shamelessness in sinning. Adoration sin(s) – Idolatry, witchcraft.

These are ‘religious sins.’ Attitude sin(s). Hatred, emulation (copying, impersonation, ambition to equal or excel others), wrath, envying. Action sin(s) – variance (conflict contention, discord),

strife, heresies (**unSCRIPTUAL Doctrine**); murders (unjustified killing of another person; drunkenness, revel lings (wild riotous parties with drinking and many other sins involved.)

V. 21, Condemnation – “They which do such things shall not inherit the **KINGdom** of **GOD**.”

Unless a personal comes to **CHRIST**, these *sins* of the *flesh* will send one to *hell* for Eternity.

- **Fruitful – The Character of The SPIRIT.** (Galatians 5: 22-26)

V. 22, The *Inward* Fruit – “Love, J.O.Y., Peace

V. 23, The *Outward* Fruit – “Gentleness, goodness, meekness, temperance (SPIRIT-control vs. self-control. **Note**... The *Consequences* of Salvation, V. 24; The *Consistency* in our Walk, V. 25,

The *Caution* about Pride (its *Pursuit*—desirous of vain glory, *Provoking*—one another and *Passion*—envying one another).