

## **Section 8, Galatians 5:16-6:4**

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### **Section 7**

Adult circumcision is unnecessary – Galatians 5:2-6

God will judge those who don't keep the Torah (law) – Galatians 5:7-10

Don't fight over the misapplied laws – Galatians 5:11-15

### **Section 8**

Misapplied man-made laws are not from God – Galatians 5:16-18

The Holy Spirit gives life – Galatians 5:19-25

Live like the Messiah Yeshua – Galatians 5:26-6:5

### **Section 9**

Keep God's commandments – Galatians 6:6-6:10

Guard the Torah (law) – Galatians 6:11-13

Be a new person (born again) – Galatians 6:14-16a

Closing – Galatians 6:16b-18

### **Section 7, Galatians 5:2-5:15 Review**

Shaul begins by saying that there is nothing to be profited by adult male circumcision – because of the extreme danger involved. If we think about it, those who were pushing circumcision were causing the deaths of sincere believers who listened to their misapplied application of the Torah. We know that the Torah teaches us to save lives. Those who don't listen to the Torah and get circumcised transgress the Torah. The Messiah does not want us to live by misapplied laws. Instead, faith working by benevolent love strengthens us.

They started out well when they first believed in the Messiah Yeshua. Who hindered them from keeping the Torah the way it was supposed to be understood? Those who persuaded them not to obey the Torah have not been sent by the Messiah Yeshua. Listening to those who don't obey the Torah will only expand this wrong teaching. Shaul urges them to be faithful to the Torah; God will judge those who don't keep the Torah no matter who they are.

Shaul teaches that male babies are to be circumcised. He wonders why he is still being persecuted and snidely remarks that perhaps circumcision has now replaced the offense of Yeshua dying on a stake. He wished those who were teaching this wrong doctrine concerning circumcision would cut off their own. They (the Nazarene Jews) have been freed from the misapplied laws, don't sin, and lovingly serve each other.

We finish this section with Shaul saying they should not wound each other by fighting over misapplied man-made laws. Shaul does not want them hurting their relationships over misapplied man-made laws. Shaul quotes Leviticus 19:18 NKJV and says, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

**The summaries** at the end of each section **are not intended to be a translation**, but intended to integrate the correct understanding from the text. I used the New King James Version to study Galatians because I can see a corresponding English word translated from each Greek word used in the Greek text (the Greek text is made by consensus from manuscripts and then translated into English).<sup>1</sup> This allows me to find the **ancient context which is immersed in a Jewish biblical context**.

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<sup>1</sup> Of course, the translators also readjust the word order as the Greek text does not translate exactly as the English translation. Also, they try to make for an easy word flow by substituting repetitive words in the Greek to give the translation a better feel, but they don't tell us what the contextual issues were.

**Here is a possible good way to use this resource:**

Read the scripture for that part

Read the Explanation

Answer the questions at the end (answers are provided).

\*Some of us have learned Galatians without its context and don't understand it properly. Memorize some of the points of context so you can remember what the sections are really about. Be able to explain them to someone.

<b>Misapplied man-made laws are not from God – Galatians 5:16-18</b>	
<b>Explanation</b>	<b>New King James Version</b>
<p>Galatians 5:16 Therefore, instead of arguing about man-made laws, seek to be led by the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>The previous verse talked about not injuring others by arguing over fleshy man-made laws.</p>	<p>Galatians 5:16 16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.</p>
<p>Galatians 5:17 Man-made fleshy laws are desires of the flesh and not from God. God and these man-made laws do not agree so that you don't end up following the Torah like you want to.</p> <p>Shaul went back to talking about man-made laws in verse 15, so the context is still about following God instead of man-made fleshy laws that are not from God.</p> <p>It is important to understand that Shaul is using different terminology to get his point across about the misapplied man-made laws. Remember, it is a big deal to teach adults they need to be circumcised which caused some to die. Shaul soon talks about the real words of the flesh one is to avoid. They most certainly would have understood that the misapplied law of adult circumcision broke the Torah and was also a desire of the flesh they were <b>not</b> commanded to do.</p>	<p>Galatians 5:17 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.</p>
<p>Galatians 5:18 If you are following God and the Holy Spirit, you are not the agency and means for man-made laws.</p> <p>Strong's says the word under can also mean agency or means.<sup>2</sup> It is talking about misapplied man-made laws.</p>	<p>Galatians 5:18 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.</p>

**Explanation Summary of Galatians 5:16-18**

**Misapplied man-made laws are not from God – Galatians 5:16-18**

Galatians 5:16

Therefore, instead of arguing about man-made laws, seek to be led by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>2</sup> g5259. ὑπό hypo; a primary preposition; under, i. e. (with the genitive case) of place (beneath), or with verbs (the agency or means, through) – Strong's Enhanced Dictionary. Since the Holy Spirit is the agency of law, it means that the Holy Spirit is not the agency of man-made laws.

## Galatians 5:17

Man-made fleshy laws are desires of the flesh and not from God. God and these man-made laws do not agree so that you don't end up following the Torah like you want to.

## Galatians 5:18

If you are following God and the Holy Spirit, you are not the agency and means for man-made laws.

<b>The Holy Spirit gives life – Galatians 5:19-25</b>	
<b>Explanation</b>	<b>New King James Version</b>
Galatians 5:19-21a Sinful acts are apparent (because we know what the Torah teaches). They are, "Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like;" Galatians 5:19-21a NKJV.	Galatians 5:19 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,
In that time period, revelries included idolatry and sexual sin. Shaul talks about sinful acts based on the Torah.	Galatians 5:20 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,
	Galatians 5:21a 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like;
Galatians 5:21b I told you previously and in times past. Those who do those sinful acts will not be heirs in the future kingdom of God.	Of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
Galatians 5:22-23a In contrast to those works, the end result of the working of the Holy Spirit produces, "Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." Galatians 5:22-23a	Galatians 5:22 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
Galatians 5:23b There is no law against the work of the Holy Spirit.	Galatians 5:23b Against such there is no law.
Galatians 5:24 Those who belong to the Messiah have put to death (put on a stake) the fleshy sinful things that you once longed for.	Galatians 5:24 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Galatians 5:25 Since the Holy Spirit gives us life, we should also walk by the Holy Spirit.  We live (have life) through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us true life, so we should also allow the work of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.	Galatians 5:25 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
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**Explanation Summary of Galatians 5:19-25**  
**The Holy Spirit gives life – Galatians 5:19-25**

Galatians 5:19-21a

Sinful acts are apparent (because we know what the Torah teaches). They are, "Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like;" Galatians 5:19-21a NKJV.

Galatians 5:21b

I told you previously and in times past. Those who do those sinful acts will not be heirs in the future kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:22-23a

In contrast to those works, the end result of the working of the Holy Spirit produces, "Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self- control. Galatians 5:22-23a

Galatians 5:23b

There is no law against the work of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:24

Those who belong to the Messiah have put to death (put on a stake) the fleshy things that you once longed for.

Galatians 5:25

Since the Holy Spirit gives us life, we should also walk by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit gives us true life, so we should also allow the work of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.

<b>Live like the Messiah Yeshua – Galatians 5:26-6:5</b>	
<b>Explanation</b>	<b>New King James Version</b>
Galatians 5:26 We should not have a high opinion of ourselves which will irritate others and produce spiteful jealousy among each other.	Galatians 5:26 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Galatians 6:1 My fellow Jewish believers, if you see a person getting into any sinful behavior, you the (godly) spiritual person should try to restore the other person in a gentle and mild manner. Look to yourself so that you avoid also being tested.	Galatians 6:1 1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.
Galatians 6:2 Carry one another's loads, doing what the Messiah would have done.  The New Testament portion talks about us imitating the Messiah. He is our example. "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma;" Ephesians 5:1-2 NKJV.	Galatians 6:2 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
Galatians 6:3 If anyone thinks themselves to be something they are not, they mislead themselves.	Galatians 6:3 3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.
Galatians 6:4 Let everyone inspect their own efforts and labors so that they can be satisfied in what they have accomplished and not in what others do.	Galatians 6:4 4 But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.
Galatians 6:5 Everyone shall carry their own obligations.	Galatians 6:5 5 For each one shall bear his own load.

**Explanation Summary of Galatians 5:26-6:5**  
**Live like the Messiah Yeshua – Galatians 5:26-6:4**

Galatians 5:26

We should not have a high opinion of ourselves which will irritate others and produce spiteful jealousy among each other.

Galatians 6:1

My fellow Jewish (Nazarene) believers, if you see a person getting into any sinful behavior, you the (godly) spiritual person should try to restore the other person in a gentle and mild manner. Look to yourself so that you avoid also being tested.

Galatians 6:2

Carry one another's loads, doing what the Messiah would have done.

Galatians 6:3

If anyone thinks themselves to be something they are not, they mislead themselves.

Galatians 6:4

Let everyone inspect their own efforts and labors so that they can be satisfied in what they have accomplished and not in what others do.

Galatians 6:5

Everyone shall carry their own obligations.

### **Major points to remember from this section**

Misapplied man-made laws are not from God – Galatians 5:16-18

The Holy Spirit gives life – Galatians 5:19-25

Live like the Messiah Yeshua – Galatians 5:26-6:5

### **What Jewish ideas does Shaul use in this section?**

God told us not to add and subtract from the Torah. This section begins by telling us not to follow misapplied laws. We should understand that some though naturally come from what is taught in the Torah. For example, we are to find the owner of a lost animal. In the same way, we should try to find the owner of something valuable that was lost. Deuteronomy 22:1-2.

This section mentions sins from the Torah we are not to commit.

We are to be humble and not filled with pride. 2 Chronicles 7:14

We are to imitate God. Leviticus 11:44

Follow the Torah.

### **There are a number of Messianic points in this section. Can you name some?**

The Holy Spirit will help us not to argue. Galatians 5:16

Misapplied man-made laws detract from following God the way we are supposed to. Galatians 5:17

The Holy Spirit will help us not to be the agency of misapplied man-made laws. Galatians 5:18

The Holy Spirit is good. Galatians 5:22-23a

### **Questions**

#### **Can you name the 3 main points Shaul is making in this section?**

Misapplied man-made laws are not from God – Galatians 5:16-18

The Holy Spirit gives life – Galatians 5:19-25

Live like the Messiah Yeshua – Galatians 5:26-6:4

#### **We shouldn't irritate others by our pride. True or False**

True, Galatians 5:26

#### **Shaul calls man-made laws fleshy laws that we desire to impose. True or False.**

True, Galatians 5:16

#### **If you are following God and the Holy Spirit you are not the \_\_\_\_\_ for man-made laws.**

Agency or means, Galatians 5:18

**Those who remain unrepentant and continue in \_\_\_\_\_ will not be heirs in the future kingdom of God.**

Sin, Galatians 5:21b

**We are to inspect our efforts and labors so we can be satisfied in what we've accomplished in Galatians 6:4. Why do you think Shaul says this? There can be several answers.**

Don't be filled with pride.

Don't be lazy.

Be accomplished both in life and spiritually.

Help and serve others.