

GALATIANS

“Set Free”

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Galatians 5:1-15 (ESV)

TWO VIEWS ON THE GOSPEL (vv. 2-6)

1. FALSE: Gospel + **something else** = Salvation (vv. 2-3)

- Any gospel that deviates from salvation based purely on God’s grace is no gospel at all (Galatians 1:7).

2. TRUTH: Gospel + **nothing else** = Salvation (vv. 4-6)

- The beauty of the gospel of grace is that no failure is beyond God’s willingness to forgive us and accept us in Christ.
- Living *for* God’s acceptance and love is slavery, but living *from* his acceptance and love is freedom!

WHAT TO BEWARE OF ABOUT GOSPEL FREEDOM

1. Beware not to **lose it** (vv. 1; 13a).

- We have to be vigilant not to lose our freedom by slipping back into religious legalism and works-righteousness.

2. Beware not to **abuse it** (vv. 13-15; 2:19-20; Titus 2:11-12)

- The grace of God is not a license to sin. It does not free us to determine our own standard of behavior.
- When we realize the beauty of God’s grace—that we are more sinful and flawed than we ever dared believe, yet more loved and accepted in Christ than we ever dared hope—our hearts fill with love and gratitude and a desire to delight God.
- The wrong question is, “What can I get away with?” The right question is, “What can I die to so that I can come alive to God?”

CENTRAL TRUTH:

Beware not to lose or abuse gospel freedom.