

Healthy Church Life Part 2

The apostle through the Holy Spirit has revealed the fruit of the sin nature and the fruit of the Spirit. He now moves on to the subject of interacting with each other in the body of Christ. How is a healthy church supposed to operate in the context of the reality of our battle with sin? The following teachings will mark a sharp contrast with the teaching of the Judaizers -legalists who are sowing division.

In Review:

1. We are to bear one another's burdens. Galatians 6:1-5

A. Restore the fallen. Vs. 1

B. Support one another. Vs. 2-3

C. Take spiritual responsibility for ourselves. Vs. 4-5

2. Remember the Law of Sowing and Reaping. Galatians 6:6-10

A. Support those who are teachers of God's Word. vs 6

Share good things with them. Financial support, encouragement, share your experience with spiritual growth. Deuteronomy 25:4; 1 Timothy 5:17-18

B. The Principle of Sowing. Vs 7-8

Don't be led astray. There are laws at work whether you acknowledge them or not. These laws are established by the LORD. We cannot just ignore them and erase them. The word for "deceived" is the same word used in Matthew 18:12 concerning a sheep that has wandered off from the shepherd.

ie. We can't just profess to be a Christian and then go sow wildness without consequences in this life and the next. Matthew 7:21-27; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

We have the choice each day sow the Spirit or the flesh.

C. Persevere in Doing Good. Vs. 9-10

I love how Paul includes himself here: "Let us...", "We..." Let us keep doing the right thing. Don't compromise. Don't give in to the world, the flesh or the devil. Don't throw up your hands and say, "I quit!" You may not see it in this life, but there is a harvest coming for those who do not give up.

Do good to everyone- especially your spiritual family. Why the distinction? Because we are fellow travelers in the foreign land! We have the same mission.

3. Final words or concern and encouragement. Galatians 6:11-18

A. A personal appeal. Vs. 11 _____

B. Final warning about false teachers. Vs. 12-13. They have wrong motives! Their interest is not in the spreading of the gospel but rather to boast in their own “goodness”. They don’t even follow their own standards.

C. Make Christ and His cross the message. VS. 14-15

Die to the world.

Many in the world look at the Christian as if it is a wasted life- but it’s not. The Christian should view those in the world as if their lives are being wasted-and they are. The Christian of course dies to sin, assured that blessed life eternal will be gained. The unbeliever lives in the pleasures of sin for a season at the loss of a blessed eternity.

As we have come to understand. Outward signs of righteousness have their purpose, but what matters is a changed life (verse 15). 2 Corinthians 5:17

D. Benediction and Closing. Vs. 16-18

May those who live promoting Christ experience blessing and mercy.

May those who are causing Paul trouble just leave him alone.

May the grace (unmerited favor) of Christ fill their spirits. So Be it!
