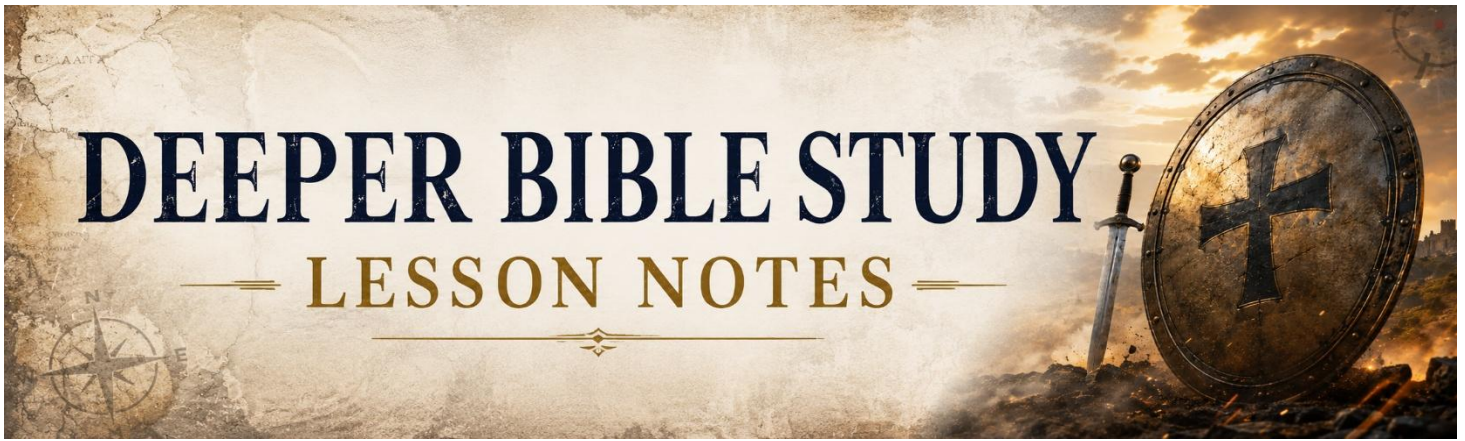




STAND FIRM (GALATIANS 5:1-5) | PASTOR ADAM AZIZ

THE HINGE OF THE WHOLE LETTER

- **GALATIANS IN 3 MOVEMENTS...**

- Chapters 1-2 — Paul's _____ ... "Here's how I got this gospel."
- Chapters 3-4 — Paul's _____ ... "Here's what this gospel means."
- Chapters 5-6 — Paul's _____ ... "Here's how this gospel lives."

- **GALATIANS 5:1 IS THE HINGE THE WHOLE DOOR SWINGS ON.**

- *Galatians 4:31 (NLT)... So, dear brothers and sisters, we are not children of the slave woman; we are children of the free woman.*
 - Your freedom is not a feeling... it is your _____. You were born free because you were born of promise.

FREE... FOR FREEDOM

Galatians 5:1 (NLT)... So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law.

- **HOW THE ESV TRANSLATES IT...**

- *Galatians 5:1 (ESV)... For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*
- Freedom is not just HOW He saved you... freedom is _____. He saved you.
 - **Freedom is not the doorway to a new set of rules... Freedom is the destination.**

STAND FIRM

- **STĚKETE** (*stay-keh-teh*) = to stand firm, to hold your ground, to refuse to be moved.
 - It is a soldier's word... the soldier who will not surrender the position he was assigned to hold.
 - It is a present-tense command — _____ standing. Do not stop standing.
 - *1 Corinthians 16:13 (NLT)... Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong.*
- **FREEDOM IS A GIFT YOU _____... BUT IT IS GROUND YOU _____.**
 - Jesus won the ground... your assignment is to stand on it and enforce it.
- **THE DEVIL CANNOT REVOKE YOUR FREEDOM... HE CAN ONLY CONVINCE YOU TO SURRENDER IT.**
 - The enemy's strategy against free people is not to re-arrest them... it is to get them to _____.
 - He makes your bondage look better than it was.
 - *Numbers 11:5 (NLT)... We remember the fish we used to eat for free in Egypt. And we had all the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic we wanted.*
 - *Numbers 14:4 (NLT)... "Let's choose a new leader and go back to Egypt!"*

THE YOKE YOU WERE NEVER MEANT TO CARRY

- **ZUGOS** (*zoo-gos*) = the wooden beam laid across the neck of an ox so it could be driven by somebody else.
 - A yoke means somebody else controls your _____.
- **JEWISH TEACHERS CALLED COMMITTING TO THE LAW "TAKING ON THE YOKE OF THE TORAH."**
 - The false teachers were selling it as a privilege... Paul calls it a yoke of _____.
 - *Acts 15:10 (NLT)... So why are you now challenging God by burdening the Gentile believers with a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors were able to bear?*
- **THE YOKE JESUS OFFERS...**
 - *Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)... "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."*

- A yoke was built for _____... In His yoke you never pull alone. He carries the weight.

- **“AGAIN” — MOST OF THE GALATIANS WERE GENTILES WHO WERE NEVER UNDER THE LAW OF MOSES.**

- In Paul’s mind, legalism and paganism are the _____ slavery with different decorations. (*Galatians 4:8-9*)
- Same root: I have to do something to get God to accept me.

CHRIST PLUS ANYTHING = NOTHING

Galatians 5:2-3 (NLT)... Listen! I, Paul, tell you this: If you are counting on circumcision to make you right with God, then Christ will be of no benefit to you. I’ll say it again. If you are trying to find favor with God by being circumcised, you must obey every regulation of the whole law of Moses.

- **TIMOTHY AND TITUS — SAME PROCEDURE, 2 DIFFERENT ANSWERS.**

- Paul circumcised Timothy (*Acts 16:3*)... It was about _____.
- Paul refused to let Titus be circumcised (*Galatians 2:3*)... It was about _____.
 - **The issue was not the ACT... the issue is what you are counting on.**

- **“CHRIST WILL BE OF NO BENEFIT TO YOU.”**

- Jesus is not a _____... He is a SAVIOR. And He does not take partners.
 - **Jesus + anything = _____... Jesus + nothing = _____.**
- John Calvin: *“Whoever wants to have a half-Christ loses the whole.”*

- **“IT IS FINISHED!” (JOHN 19:30)**

- **TETELESTAI** is in the perfect tense... a completed action with results that keep on standing.
 - **It was finished... and it _____ finished.**

- **“YOU MUST OBEY EVERY REGULATION OF THE WHOLE LAW OF MOSES.”**

- The law is not a buffet... it is a _____ deal. The rabbis counted 613 commandments.
- *James 2:10 (NLT)... For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God’s laws.*
 - **You can live by perfection and owe EVERYTHING... or live by grace and owe NOTHING but love and devotion.**

FALLEN FROM GRACE

Galatians 5:4 (NLT)... For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ! You have fallen away from God's grace.

- **KATARGEŌ** (*kat-ar-geh-oh*) = to make inoperative, to render idle, to sever, to _____.
 - Paul uses the exact same word in Romans 7 about marriage.
 - *Romans 7:6 (NLT)... But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power.*
 - In Romans, through the cross you were released from the law. In Galatians, go back to the law... and you are released from Christ.

- **“FALLEN FROM GRACE” IS NOT ABOUT FALLING INTO SIN.**
 - The person who fell from grace is not the person who fell into SIN... it is the person who fell into _____.
 - You do not fall from grace DOWN into sin... you fall from grace UP into self-righteousness.
 - *Romans 3:23-24 (NLT)... For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.*
 - When we sin we fall _____ of the standard... not AWAY from grace.
 - Sin cannot outrun grace... but pride can walk away from it.

- **WE WALK AWAY FROM GRACE WHEN...**
 - We refuse to acknowledge sin in our lives and repent.
 - We choose our performance as a means of right standing with God.

- **THAT IS WHY SCRIPTURE KEEPS TELLING US TO HOLD ON...**
 - *Colossians 1:23 (NLT)... But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News.*
 - *Hebrews 2:1 (NLT)... So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it.*

- **NO ONE CAN TAKE YOU OUT OF GRACE...**
 - *John 10:28 (NLT)... I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me.*
 - No one can take you out of grace... but you can _____ from it.

FREE PEOPLE WAIT... THEY DON'T WORK FOR IT

Galatians 5:5 (NLT)... But we who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised to us.

- **THE PRONOUN CHANGE:** Verses 2-4 say “YOU”... Verse 5 says “ WE.”

- **3 ANCHORS FOR STANDING FIRM...**
 - THE SPIRIT = the _____.
 - FAITH = the _____.
 - EAGER WAITING = the _____.

- **The legalist WORKS to GET righteousness. The believer _____ to RECEIVE righteousness.**
 - Free people do not work FOR righteousness... they work from it.
 - Right now your righteousness is DECLARED... one day it will be _____.

- **WAITING DOES NOT MAKE YOU PASSIVE...**
 - *Galatians 5:6 (NLT)... What is important is faith expressing itself in love.*