

SESSION 1 - in all liberty

Read Galatians 5 verses 1 to 12

to start

- what is the only instruction of this passage?
- to know why Paul speaks of freedom see the first 4 chapters
- Summary of the first 4 chapters of the letter to the Galatians: [if time permits read the 4 chapters]

* Chap. 1 and chap.2:1 - 14 = <u>Paul defends his Ministry</u> (after introduction and astonishment, importance and origin of his message, approval of the other Apostles, firmness against Pierre)

- * Chap. 2:15-21, Chap. 3 and 4 = <u>Paul defends his doctrine</u> (summary of the 'justification by faith', call to the experience of the Galatians, the example of Abraham - his faith and the promise, place of the Law, appeal to the friendship of the Galatians, attention given to the 2 sons of Abraham)
- who says 'defence' says 'problem' and calls for a solution
- what is the solution proposed by Paul?
- so to finish the letter, Paul so wants to instruct Christians to live <u>in all</u> <u>freedom</u>, starting with our passage = Gal.5:1-12

FREEDOM

- what is the aspect of the Law that Paul underlines in these verses?

- where does this rite come from and why?
- <u>is that Paul is against circumcision itself?</u> [see Act.16:1-3 (all the more astonishing it is just after Act.15:1-29) and 1 Cor.9:19-23]
- <u>what is the real problem?</u> [see Gal.1:6-10, 2:16, 3:1-5, 4:8-11 and Act.15:1 and 5]
- <u>what are the consequences to add circumcision to faith in Christ</u> <u>given by Paul in our passage?</u>
- are there similar "additions" today?
- can we conclude that the consequences are the same?
- is the solution also the same?

to sum up: <u>Actions to take</u>

- Remember that the only Gospel is to believe in Jesus Christ, in order to be justified by faith in Christ
- not to want or let anything be added to this Gospel, not even the works of the Law
- not be diverted from this truth by anyone or anything, even an Angel
- always keep firmly in mind that one of the goals of salvation by Jesus Christ is freedom and therefore not let ourselves be enslaved by anything.