

ALL FREEDOM COURSE

(developed by Michel Larribeau MTh)

based on the 15 instructions in Galatians 5 & 6

NOTES FOR PREACHERS

Aim: 'to learn how to walk in all freedom'

COURSE PLAN

sample below for preview

SESSION 1 - **in all liberty**

*for the rest of the course contact us
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SESSION 2 - **in all spirituality**

SESSION 3 - **in all mercy**

SESSION 4 - **in all generosity**

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SESSION 1 - in all liberty

Read Galatians 5 verses 1 to 12

to start

- **the only instruction of this passage** is at the end of verse 1 = 'therefore remain firm and do not let yourselves.. .the yoke of bondage '
- its context is indicated at the beginning of verse 1 where Paul uses the word freedom
- to know why Paul speaks of freedom you have to know the first 4 chapters; summary of the first 4 chapters of the letter to the Galatians: [if time permits read the 4 chapters]
 - * Chapter 1 and chap.2:1-14 - **Paul defends his Ministry** (after introduction and astonishment, importance and origin of his message, approval of the other Apostles, firmness against Peter)
 - * Chapter 2:15-21, Chapter 3 and 4; **Paul defends his doctrine** (summary of the 'justification by faith', call to the experience of the Galatians, the example of Abraham - his faith and promise, place of the Law, appeal to the friendship of the Galatians, attention given to the 2 sons of Abraham)
- 'defence' means 'problem' and calls for a solution
- **what is the solution proposed by Paul?** see Gal.5:1; Paul begins chap.5 by saying that one of the goals of the salvation of Jesus is not bondage but freedom and be firm on this subject
- so to finish the letter, Paul so wants to instruct the Christians to live freely, starting with our passage = Gal.5:1 - 12

FREEDOM

- the aspect of the Law that Paul singles out in these verses is the 'circumcision' (see verses 2, 3, 6 and 11) = 'surgery on the foreskin of the male organ'
- **where does this rite and why?** Gen.17:1-14 = sign of the alliance between God and Abraham and his descendants and repeated in the Law : Lev.12:3
- **is that Paul against circumcision itself?** see Act.16:1-3 (all the more astonishing than just after Act.15:1-29) and 1 Cor.9:19-23
- **what is the real problem?** see Gal.1:6-10, 2:16, 3:1-5, 4:8-11 and Act.15:1 & 5 - obedience to the Law added to faith in Jesus for salvation
- **the consequences of adding circumcision to faith in Christ are serious:** see Gal.5:2, 5:3 (= 'servitude' of the v.1), 5:4, 5:6, 5:7, 5:8
- **the danger of the same kind "of addition" today still exists,** maybe not circumcision but something else like one or more of the 10 commandments, belonging to a denomination, water baptism, baptism in the Holy Spirit ... etc...
- **it can be concluded that the consequences are the same**
- **it can be concluded that the solution is also the same:** one of the goals of the salvation of Jesus is still, not bondage but freedom and we must stand firm on this subject

to sum up: Actions to take

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