

## **The Believers Boast Gal 6:11-18**

The believers basis of boasting is in the cross of Christ. Therefore, the believer is not to submit to the pressures of the circumcision party of the Judaizers 6:11-18

A. The Importance of Paul's Word. Last words are lasting words :11

1. Paul wrote all of the letter?
2. Paul dictated to amanuensis and now sign off?

NB not just the sign off but also some theological issues. Rom 16:22, I Cor. 16:21 Col 4:18 II Thess. 3:17

B. The Importance of the Glory of the Cross of Christ :12-17

1. The error of the Judaizers: Fear of persecution :12-13
  - a. Who are the Judaizers?
    1. Non Christian Jews (Who do not follow all the law)
    2. Christian Jewish legalists (Hypocrites to law and Christ)
  - b. What are their motives? :12
    1. Make a good show in the flesh- Outward (Appearance before men)
    2. Boast in your flesh – Inward (Feel good about their efforts)
    3. Escape persecution of the Cross (Escape the condemnation of Christianity and the doctrine of salvation by grace alone in Christ alone)

They want to escape the condemnation of the non Christian Jewish position of the Judaizers and the consternation of the non Jewish Christian position of Paul.

This view of the Judaizers provides boasting before men and boasting before God and eliminates the dangers of reprisals from either. But this is a dream, a delusion based on denial of the truth. God is not pleased with doctrinal heresy and not mocked by self-absorbed behavior. (Gal. 1:8 The Acknowledgement of Anathema)

c. What is there mistake? :13

They do not even keep the law

NB They are called the Circumcised. They want to have the Galatians Circumcised so they can boast in their Flesh- Foreskin

Christ freed us from the curse of the law Gal 3:13

2. The honor of Paul -Focus on the Cross :14-17
  - a. The Role of the Cross :14-15
    - 1.The Call for Boasting The Cross of Christ
    2. The Cause for Boasting- The Creation of the New:15 (5:6, Col 1:11)
  - b. The Rule of Blessedness :16
    1. Those who walk in this principle are blessed  
( “Walk” is same as in 5:25)  
The power of the gospel to give a new life (Rom 1:16-17)
    2. “Peace and Mercy” NB the consequence before the cause  
(This is different than normal order for Paul I Tim 1:2, II Tim 1:2,  
2 John 3, Jude 2)
    3. The Israel of God  
See Psalm 125:5. “Peace upon Israel”  
The blessing is for both gentiles and Jews who understand that  
justification is by grace alone, faith alone in Christ alone and has  
nothing to do with circumcision. But there is still a future for  
national Israel (Rom 9-11)
  - c. The Resolute Appeal :17
    1. From now on let the trouble against me stop. The warning is to the  
Galatians who were causing him trouble not against the Judaizers  
who caused the church trouble. Some of the Galatians had been  
taken in by the false teaching and were harming Paul. 1:6, 5:7,  
4:15ff. Similar to 2 Cor 12 and the super apostles.
    2. The reason has to do with the Stigmata- marks on Paul’s body.  
Palpable proof of Paul’s service to the saints for the Savior. This  
is opposite to the marks of circumcision. See 2 Cor 1:5, 4:10 Philp  
3:10.
- C. The Importance of the Grace of God :18
  1. The grace of God in justification (based on the cross) all of life is the key  
that the Galatians need to focus is on.
  2. Paul reminds them that even though he has had some hard and harsh  
words for them he still loves them as “brothers”

Justification and sanctification are not accomplished through legalism. The Cross of Christ, not the circumcision of men is the central instrument to regenerate, redeem and reconcile mankind to God. It is the grace of God and the faith of men that causes the new creation which provides life and life more abundant. (Jo. 10:10)