

Notes and Quotes

A FEW THOUGHTS TO HELP US MOVE THROUGH THE STUDY
AND GAIN A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

GALATIANS 5

If circumcision is necessary for salvation, Christ is of no use. Also, those who want to keep the law about circumcision must keep the whole law. They cannot choose one command and ignore others to suit themselves. If they try to find salvation through law-keeping, they cut themselves off from the salvation that comes from Christ through God's grace (2-4). That salvation has nothing to do with circumcision. It is received by faith, is guaranteed by the Holy Spirit and produces a response of love in the lives of believers (5-6). - Flemming

A man who can be justified by his own obedience, does not need the aid or the merit of another; and if it was true, as they seemed to suppose, that they could be justified by the Law, it followed that the work of Christ was in vain so far as they were concerned. - Barnes

Paul expresses shock and disappointment at his readers' being so easily persuaded by an influence that did not come from God. He refers to this influence as a little yeast that is working through the whole batch and having its effect on the churches. - Asbury Bible Commentary

Christian character is not mere moral or legal correctness, but the possession and manifestation of nine graces: love, joy, peace--character as an inward state; longsuffering, gentleness, goodness--character in expression toward man; faith, meekness, temperance-- character in expression toward God. Taken together they present a moral portrait of Christ, and may be taken as the apostle's explanation of Galatians 2:20 "Not I, but Christ." - Schofield Notes