

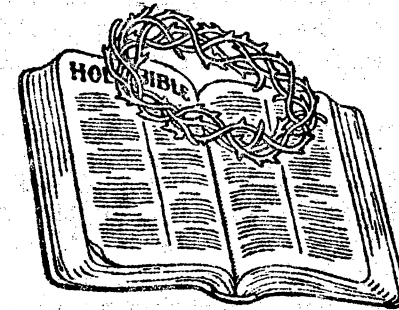
THE BOOK OF
GALATIANS

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"Can God Be
Mocked?"

Gal. 6:7-10

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Introduction

1. The practical section of this book is unrelenting in its pressure upon believers. To believe is to assume personal responsibilities!

2. Principles of Christian living are always abundant if one really wants to find them. The current section supports this viewpoint.

3. Here are some issues relating to the living mode of Christians:

1. CHRISTIAN CHARACTER. vv. 7, 8.

a. Toward self.

The verb "deceive" really means to "lead oneself astray." Self-deception is an easy art to learn.

b. Toward God.

He cannot be mocked. The thought is that God will not allow Himself to be sported with; He will deal with men for what they really are. Actions often afford a better clue to the state of the heart than do words.

c. Toward flesh.

Christians cannot operate in this area nor

can anyone who is not a Christian actually come out on top. This is a field in which any seed will only corrupt and die!

d. Toward Spirit.

Christians who sow liberally in this area will find eternal life the result. What one sows, he reaps. Let no one misunderstand: where there is real life, it will be noticed operating in proper spheres!

2. CHRISTIAN CONDUCT. v. 9.

This verse assumes that the admonition of the previous verses has been taken to heart.

a. The manner of it.

No wearing. The present subjunctive is volative. It is an appeal not to lose heart nor turn cowards. Well doing should dominate one's being, but while this is going on, let not anyone show an ill heart!

b. The product of it.

Blessed reaping. This comes in the proper time, ie. the regular time for reaping. The hypothetical use of the temporal participle shows that perseverance is an essential ingredient of vital Christianity!

NOTE: Two figures from harvest are employed in this verse: a. The temptation to slacken exertions by weariness of prolonged labor. b. The fact that reapers might want to relax or unloose due to the toil and the heat. BUT faith, real faith, presses on!

3. CHRISTIAN CONCERN. v. 10.

a. Its season.

This is the same word as used in v. 9 for "season" and here rendered "opportunity". It means the proper time!

b. Its service.

Christian concern for men as men is part of our responsibility. We cannot avoid people; they are part of the human race! See Rom 1:14.

c. Its speciality.

In this era of specialization, it should not be difficult for the believer to see that he has a specific drawing toward other believers to help them (Eph. 2:19)!

Conclusion.

A true Christian could hardly turn a deaf ear to these energetic efforts for getting on with living unto Him. Whether in person or in practise, Christians are expected to live on a plane which is all glorious. The dynamic for this is twofold: externally - - the Cross and internally - - the Holy Spirit. Let us go on!

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