

GALATIANS 6:1-2

A. Galatians 6:1 - Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

1. [overtaken] This could be by surprise or a gradual **cooling** of one's intimacy with Christ to where they give in to temptation.
2. [in a fault] This is when we do not guard our **weaknesses** of our flesh and place ourselves in a position to not resist or give up.

*A fault is more than just sin. It is a basic, sinful flaw in a believer's **character** that is overcoming them. It is a believer overtaken by a pattern of conduct. It is not an occasional happening in their life, but a sin that often conquers them. It is a **pull**, a force that often overtakes them to sin by doing it again and again. It is as if they are caught or captured by **this** sin.

II Timothy 2:25-26 - In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; II Tim. 2:26 - And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

3. [ye which are spiritual]
 - a. This is not just anybody, but one in an intimate relationship with the Spirit.
Galatians 5:16 - *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.
Ephesians 5:18 - And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
 - b. It is one who understands God's Word, the Gospel of **Grace**, and they are allowing the Holy Spirit to minister in and through them (Philippians 2:13; Romans 8:26).
*It is only then that we would make decisions based on the Word's spiritual principals.

4. [restore such an one]
 - a. The believer's motivation in trying to restore a brother - sister in Christ has to come from the Holy Spirit's **leading** and not our flesh. To restore has the idea of putting **back** in place what originally belonged before sinning.
*It is like setting a broken bone, or repairing a fisherman's net that has holes in it.
 - b. Note David: Psalms 51:8 - Make me to hear joy and gladness; *that* the bones *which* thou hast broken may rejoice.
Conviction helps lead to the spiritual setting of bones in place that had been broken by sin. Sin will **dis**locate your **life** until you make it right with God.
 - c. Sin is not extracted, but it is the bone that needs to be restored - **reset**.

Example: A believer falls into sexual immorality. You do not remove the sexual activity out of one's life. You put it - set it back in its proper place where it belongs, within marriage. Amazingly, then the sin **ceases**.

Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage *is* honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

- d. Restoring is to put back one's spiritual and human health. It is our obligation as believers to **try** and help other believers who have been overtaken, or broken by sin.

* | This requires spirituality, time, prayer, word-study, and patience. It takes both parties in order
* | to bring the sinning one back to where they belong, and to heal them spiritually to where they can function **again** as a strong believer.

- e. Example: I Corinthians 5:1-2 - It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. I Cor. 5:2 - And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

The church had not followed the instruction of Galatians 6:1 yet. This sin continued and became the talk of the community, putting a **black** mark on the church. *But notice what happened when they finally got **in**volved:

II Corinthians 2:1-2, 6-8, 11 - But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness. II Cor. 2:2 - For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me? II Cor. 2:6 - Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which *was inflicted* of many. II Cor. 2:7 - So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. II Cor. 2:8 - Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him. II Cor. 2:11 - Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

5. [in the spirit of meekness;]

- a. Remember that "the fruit of the Spirit" was to always be mild and gentle about things. **Why** did Paul pick out this "fruit of the Spirit" when it comes to restoring a brother or sister in Christ?
- b. Remember, one's spirit or attitude determines the sinning one's response to a **con**frontation. We are never to have an air of superiority or a **criti**cal judgmental, finger-pointing attitude (Pharisees).

6. [considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.]

- a. Dealing with brethren is a test of our **own** spirituality!

- (1) It is having the willingness to look **past** someone's sin that has overtaken them. *That takes grace!
- (2) It is the way you **protect** yourself while helping someone with their sin.
- (3) It is the ability to examine and evaluate the sin from God's **Word**.

I Timothy 4:16 - Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

*We are to make sure we are right, and in line with the doctrine of grace, the truth in our own life **first**. Only then can we properly help others without sinning ourselves.

- b. We always have to keep an eye out for ourselves. Even though we might be spiritual, that does not mean we cannot also commit the **same** sin. We have to stay on guard, because dealing with sin puts us in a **vul**nerable position.

*Remember, they failed because of that sin. It is powerful and **draw**ing.

- c. Satan wants us to fall prey to the **very** sin our brother - sister has fallen into. That would make matters worse and damage our testimony, making us hypocrites. This gives the saved and the lost an occasion to blaspheme the name of God and the **church**!

I Corinthians 10:12 - Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall

- d. Paul understands our own battle with sin. We are **never** to have a holier-than-thou attitude. We need to realize that we could commit the very same sin and be in need of help ourselves one day, if we do not stay intimate with God.

Romans 7:18-19 - For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not. Rom. 7:19 - For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

B. Galatians 6:2 - Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

1. In verse 6:1, we are to help believers in sin. Here in verse 6:2, we are to help believers in **storms**.
2. We are to "bear," to lift up, to help **carry** in order to lighten their burdens. We are to shoulder some of their load during their difficult time.
 - a. This has the idea to help one with the weight that would eventually crush them. Who is to be helped often?

Romans 15:1 - We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

- b. True spiritual believers will listen, pray, help, follow-up, hold them up, and support them so they might be encouraged to stand in **faith**. We should put a plan in place and then follow through!
- c. The local church gives us the opportunity to do this ministry. Many of our people are divorced, single parent, loss of a job, financial crisis, still babies, perhaps fallen, problems, grief, suffering, in a storm or valley, depressed and **alone!**

*They need **answers** on how to deal with what they are going through from strong spiritual believers, and not answers from the **world**.

Psalms 1:1 - Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

- d. Our country, society, government, and much of our community has scorned, **excluded** God and His **truth**. God's word is absolute truth that teaches absolute values, morals, and **solutions** to man's needs.

*The problem has been that many **ungrounded** believers have turned from God's truths to the so-called experts of the world whose answers are false and foolish.

Romans 1:21-22, 25 - Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Rom. 1:22 - Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, Rom. 1:25 - Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

James 1:5-7 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1:6 - But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. James 1:7 - For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

The Result

1. One of the great things grace does in our lives, is to put self-interests aside by looking to the interests - needs of **others**.

II Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; II Cor. 1:4 - Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

2. There is a **higher** law than the law of Moses [so fulfil the law of Christ]. It is to **love** God and one another.

Galatians 5:13-14 - For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. Gal. 5:14 - For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Romans 15:2-3 - Let every one of us please *his* neighbour for *his* good to edification. Rom. 15:3 - For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

Matthew 22:36-40 - Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? Matt. 22:37 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Matt. 22:38 - This is the first and great commandment. Matt. 22:39 - And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Matt. 22:40 - On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

*To "fulfill the law of Christ" is to live by the same principles He lived by. He loved to **help** others!

3. Conclusion: The context of verse one is the sins that cause embarrassment, shame, weakness, and the **dishonor** of being the one overtaken in a fault or by a storm.

*As a church of believers, when one hurts or suffers, we **all** do!