THE APOSTLE PAUL'S LETTER TO THE CHURCHES of GALATIA

CHAPTER 6:6-15

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-460 SEPTEMBER 29, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"STEPPIN' FROM DEATH TO LIFE"

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Legalism, Salvation, The Cross, Evangelism

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Galatians 6:11-15

Galatians 6:11-15

- 11 See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand!
- 12 As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.
 - 13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.
 - But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

STEPPIN' FROM DEATH TO LIFE

1.) Death to Legalism

vv. 12-13

As many as desire to make a good showing (impression) in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. 13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

Death to Legalism

a.) This flesh is spiritually dead

Verse 12a

As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised...

Death to Legalism

b.) This flesh is constantly shallow

Verse 12b

...only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ

Death to Legalism

c.) This flesh is incurably proud

Verse 13

For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

STEPPIN' FROM DEATH TO LIFE

2.) Life to the Believer

vv. 14

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Life to the Believer

a.) Celebrating The power of the Cross

Verse 14a

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The **Terror** of the Cross It was a killing machine

The **Shame** of the Cross
It was for the worst of the worst

The **Price** of the Cross It was used to take away everything

The Cross Leaves No Room for "Boasting"

Life to the Believer

b.) Realizing that this is a dying world

Verse 14b

by whom the world has been crucified to me,

The World Doesn't Matter to Me Anymore

"Because of that cross, my interest in all the attractive things of this world died in me a long time ago..."

1 Peter 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

Life to the Believer

c.) Awakening to a new reality

Verse 1

and I to the world.

I Don't Matter to the World Anymore

"...and the world's interest in me is also long dead."

The world has written me off. I am fool to the world."

This world is glad to think about Christmas. (it means employment, income and profit)

This world is eager to place the nativity scene in the window (it's such a heart warming tradition)

This world loves to stand and look down into the manger at baby Jesus

(he's so sweet and harmless...)

Let Him Grow Up...

And walk in this world and we get uneasy

Let Him Grow Up...

And heal the sick and we can't explain it.

Let Him Grow Up...

And tell the world that it is in of His life, and we're upset.

Let Him Grow Up...

And be perfect, innocent, and holy and we're angry

But Let Him Grow Up...

And be beaten, crucified and mocked only to say to his murders, "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing"

And That World will Hate Him

Because The Cross is God's Indictment of a Wicked World

That He Came to Save - Not Condemn

John 12:32-33

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. 33 This he said, signifying what death he should die.

STEPPIN' FROM DEATH TO LIFE

3.) Jesus Christ is the Door to Heaven

vv. 15

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

Before you Get Your "Knickers in a Wad" and run out of the Sanctuary, Listen to this:

Jesus, The Door to Heaven

a.) There is no segregation in Christ

Verse 15

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision

Jesus, The Door to Heaven

b.) There is no entrance outside of Jesus Christ

Verse 15

circumcision nor uncircumcision, avails anything,

the most devoted human effort means nothing to God **for salvation**

Jesus, The Door to Heaven

c.) There's Life only in Christ

Verse 15

but a new creation

John 1:10-14

- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.
 - 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.
 - But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:
- who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 12:37

But although He had done so many miracles before them, they would not believe in Him,

VERSES TO USE ABOUT THE CROSS

Hebrews 12:2-3

- looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls

(NKJ)

Colossians 2:13-14

- And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,
 - having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (NKJ)

Colossians 1:19-20

19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

Philippians 3:18-19

- 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:
 - whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame-- who set their mind on earthly things.

(NKJ)

Philippians 2:6-8

- who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,
 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and
 - coming in the likeness of men.

20

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

(NKJ)

1 Corinthians 1:17-18

- 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.
- 18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

(NKJ)

John 19:16-17

- 16 Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away.
- 17 And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha,

STEPPIN' FROM DEATH TO LIFE