

Galatians 6:11-18 Christian Warriors 7/14/2024 (Last Sermon in Galatians)

We look at **3 personal comments** by Paul about his life and ministry that should wake us up and help us gain clarity about how to live in this age.

How should we live in these days? What is the message of our lives saying to others?

1. A Warrior's Wounds

A. Paul mentions his health problems - II Corinthians 12:7-12. He had to live with them!

Imagine that! The one who could heal others and do miracles could not heal himself.

Acts 19:11-12. He could not heal Trophimus. **II Timothy 4:20.**

He could not heal Timothy- **I Timothy 5:23**

B. Damaged eyesight- Galatians 4:12-15 Ophthalmia

(This in addition to the other unknown health problems he had)

Paul's custom was to write through an amanuensis. Then, to authenticate, he would write at the end himself. He was a scholar himself so he could write, but his eyesight problems made it difficult accept to write in **unicals** (all capital letters, usually 1"high). **II Thessalonians 3:17/ Romans 16:22/ I Corinthians 16:21/Colossians 4:18**

TEXT: Galatians 6:11-18 *****

6:11 " See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand."

6:12-13 No persecution of Jews till 66 A.D. Only Christians persecuted from 56 A.D. forward, i.e., when the writing of this book took place.

"good showing"- You will always have the "gad-about" who want the glory of something real, and attach themselves to it, but have no intention of sacrificing for it. Light can guide you out of darkness, but it also attracts bugs!

Tyndale: His death commemorated ever October 6. **" Lord give your people grace to hear and keep your word that, after the example of your servant William Tyndale, we may not only profess your gospel, but also be ready to suffer and die for it, to the honor of your name."**

PSBA- 90 churches- 1983. By 1988 they want in on our "success." Yet **before**, they rejected us.

2. A Warrior Has Full Commitment

6:14 Dead to the false promises of the world system. Only the battle-hardened can see the illusions of this world clearly.

Robertson: "Paul contrasts his own spirit with that which his rivals are manifesting. They are animated by selfish desires to glory over the flesh of others. He will glory only in the triumph of the cross over his own flesh, whereby the power of the world over him, and his carnal love of the world are both done away with."

6: 15-16 Not, "I need to file down a few rough edges!" **Not,** "I'm as good as the next guy!"
Not, "I am just your average guy; I don't want to stand out too much!"

No outward symbol; no outward ritual, can produce this new creation! Galatian 5: 6/ II Corinthians 5:14-17

Galatians 6: 16 In Greek (Kai) is a conjunction that can mean "and" or "that is." Ephesians 2: 11-19/ Romans 4- verifies the use "that is" in this context.

The cross has made all these ritual distinctions meaningless.

3. Wounded Warriors Have Nothing To Prove

6:17 Judaizes had an endless insistence on signs. Stigmata- signs to see. "BRAND-MARKS"

Paul had signs from battle, not a tattoo, not a t-shirt.

Tattoos are so many times an attempt to shore up what a person wants to be and not a sign of what they really are.

A slave in a pagan temple branded the name of his god on his body.

Some Roman soldiers would brand the name of their general on their hand (usually) as a sign of dedication. That whole empire perished in a whimper.

Paul did not put marks on himself to give him courage of his convictions for the future. His scars came after the commitment. His were battle scars.

6: 18 All by grace This same warrior; Wounded; fully committed; a warrior with nothing to prove would never for a minute consider that he was better than you! He talks as if we are right there beside him in the battle! Romans 1: 1-6 John felt that way; (I John 1: 1-4, 3:1-3). Peter felt that way; (I Peter 1:8)