

THE FREEDOM OF LOVE

GALATIANS 5:6-15



- **Legalism**

- Performance-based faith
- Driven by fear, appearance
- Do more, try harder
- Know God, no relationship



Fatigue
Trapped
Pride / Self Righteousness
Resentment towards God and people

- **Liberalism**

- Grace without transformation
- Driven by wants
- Do what you want—Justify indulgence.
- God is a safety net, not Savior



Shallowness
Emptiness
Moral Confusion
Relational Breakdown

THE CHRISTIAN TRAPS



A. True Faith Expresses Itself Through Love (6, 14)

B. True Faith is anchored in Truth (7-8)

C. True Faith is Free from Fear (11, 5)

D. True Faith Uses Freedom to Serve (13)



WHAT TRUTH FAITH LOOKS LIKE



“6 for in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is **faith expressing itself through love.**”



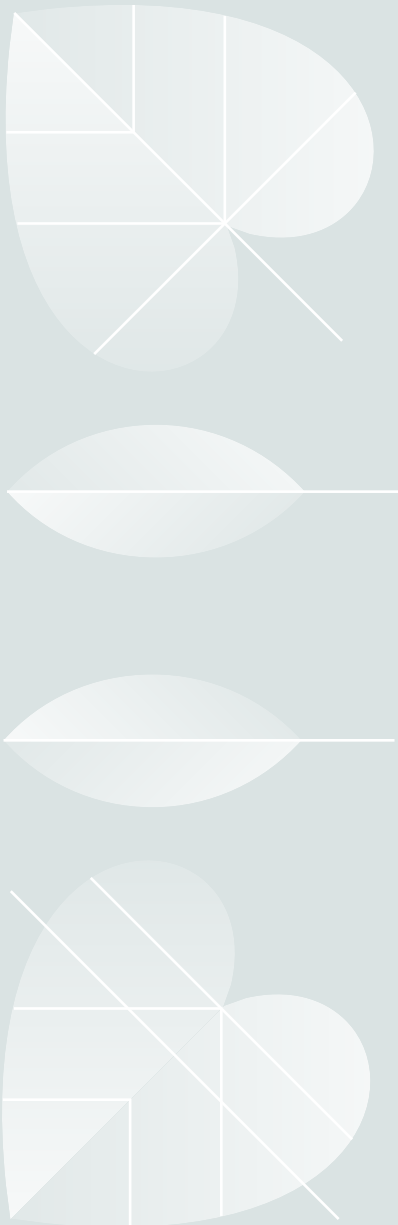
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"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."



GALATIANS 5:6,14



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GALATIANS 5:6,14

‘EXPRESSING’ in Greek is **‘*ENERGEO*’**

which means

‘to *ENERGIZE*.’



"人之初，性本善"

"MAN IS INHERENTLY GOOD-NATURED."



BEATRICE WEBB

1890

“I have staked everything on *the essential goodness of human nature.*”

1925

“I realize *how permanent are the evil impulses and instincts in man*, and how little we can change these —
Especially the greed for wealth and power.

“Can this even be done, without the *authoritative ethics associated with faith*, and *a spirit of love at work*, in the *universe?*”



THE DEVASTATION IN GAZA & UKRAINE





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WHAT TRUTH FAITH LOOKS LIKE



“You were running a good race.

Who ***cut in*** on you and ***kept you*** from ***obeying the truth?***

That kind of ***persuasion (motivation)*** does not come from the one who calls you.”

GALATIANS 5:7-8





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WHAT TRUTH FAITH LOOKS LIKE



"11 Brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching
circumcision, why am I still being persecuted?
In that case the **offense of the cross** has been abolished."

GALATIANS 5:11



"If *when you lose your fear of rejection by God*, if
when you lose your fear of rejection, *you've lost all*
your incentive to living a holy life, then *the only*
incentive you had *for living a holy life* was *fear*"

TIM KELLER



"5 For through the Spirit, by **faith**, we ourselves
eagerly wait for the **hope (*certainty*)** of
righteousness. "

GALATIANS 5:5



"Faith is being sure of what we hope for, and
certain of what we do not see."

HEBREWS 11:1



**True faith expressed in love frees us to obey God,
without bondage to the law.**

TRUTH #1

INTRODUCTION

Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and musician of the late Baroque period.

He composed over *1,000* pieces of music.





BACH'S MANUSCRIPT



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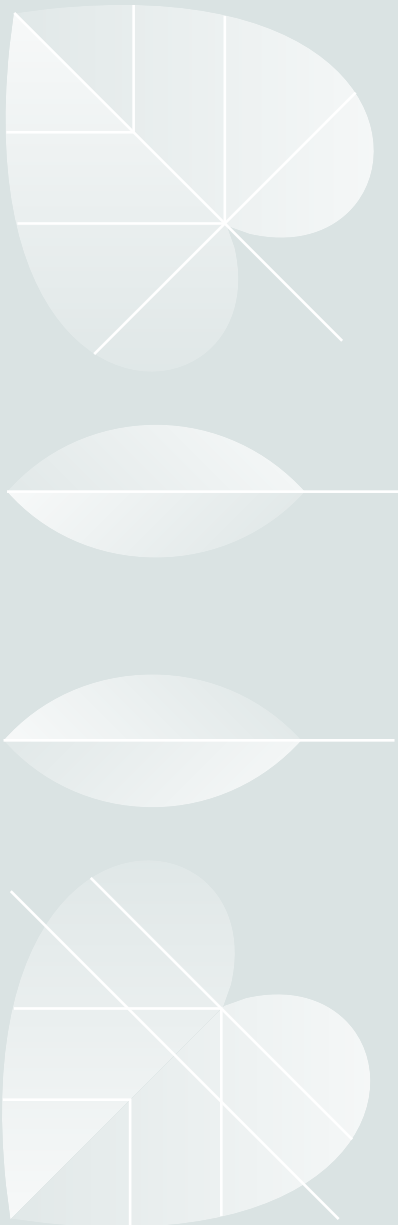


WHAT TRUTH FAITH LOOKS LIKE



"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free.
But do not use your freedom to **INDULGE** the flesh;
rather, serve one another humbly in **LOVE**."

GALATIANS 5:13



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GALATIANS 5:13

'INDULGE' in Greek

means

'TO SET UP A BASE OF OPERATION'



**Without love, freedom becomes bondage to the
flesh.**

TRUTH #2



“So, Jacob served **7 years** to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him **because of his love for her.**”

GENESIS 29:20



**Faith expressed in love frees us to serve God,
without bondage to the flesh or the law.**

MAIN TRUTH



THANK YOU



BENEDICTION

“NOW MAY THE GOD OF PEACE... EQUIP YOU WITH EVERYTHING GOOD FOR DOING HIS WILL...” —HEBREWS 13:20–21



GO NOW IN THE FREEDOM CHRIST HAS GIVEN YOU, NOT TO SERVE YOURSELF, NOT TO STRIVE UNDER LAW, BUT TO LOVE.

LET YOUR FAITH BE REAL, EXPRESSED IN HUMBLE SERVICE, GROUNDED IN GRACE AND LOVE, AND LED BY THE SPIRIT.

**WALK IN THAT FREEDOM. LOVE WITH THAT FREEDOM.
LIVE FOR JESUS, THE ONE WHO SET YOU FREE.**

IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.