

BOOK OF GALATIANS  
BELIEVERS' BURDENS  
GALATIANS 6:1-5

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**Introductions**

We all know first hand how that our life in this sin cursed world comes with a **variety of burdens** that can and do **affect our lives at different times and in different ways**. I'm speaking of things that weigh heavy on us:

**Sometimes there are things that can weigh on us SPIRITUALLY:**

It might be that one has **drifted away from the LORD** and is having trouble finding their way back to Him! **(Such a one as in verse 1 that we dealt with in the message "MINISTERING TO THE FALLEN")**

It might be that one has **given in to some strong temptation** in their lives and **fallen into deep sin** and now both the **guilt and consequences of that sin is weighing heavy on them!** *(e.g. Like King David)*

It might be that one has **fallen for error of false teaching** as was the case with many in the Churches of Galatia who Paul was addressing. *(e.g. It still happens today...in My second Church...a young man who was saved out of drug addiction got pulled into a cult known as "The Way"!)*

**Sometimes there are things that can weigh on us PHYSICALLY:**

It might be something that one is born with or has inherited and cannot change...we don't get to choose our genes!

It might be a **physical handicap** that one is dealing with from a **disease**, or even from an **injury** of some sort. *(e.g. Maybe someone who was in an auto accident and their physical life was never the same.)*

It might be a **chronic illness** one has developed where there seems to be little or no hope of recovery. **PHYSICAL BURDENS**

**Sometimes there are things that can weigh on us EMOTIONALLY:**

These burdens might come over a **loss of some kind in our lives**.

*(e.g. The loss of a spouse due to death or even a divorce...the loss of a parent...or of a child or grandchild...the loss of a friend or even a pet...or it might be something like a financial reversal that turns your world upside down!)*

Sometimes an **emotional burden** like **depression or anxiety** or even some **other psychological disorders** might come on one for no other reason but that they have a chemical imbalance in their body! Yes, **sometimes there are physical reasons for emotional problems!**

You burden may be caused by something that I haven't hit upon yet!

**We know that sometimes life gets really tough and there are things that may weigh heavy on us in EVERY area of our lives—Something happens to affect one Physically, Emotionally and Spiritually! *(e.g. Job)***

Unfortunately, these come our way as a result of living in sin cursed bodies and living in a sin cursed world!

*Job 14:1 Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.*

At one time or another, we **all have experienced and/or will experience problems** and cares and troubles that weigh us down in some way!

Each new day of life here on planet earth can bring to us it's own assortment of problems that might begin to burden us down.

As Paul wraps up this letter to the Galatian Churches, he deals with an assortment of things in a rapid fire sort of way as we have seen in our past studies of his other epistles. These first few verses of this chapter offer us some assistance in this matter of what we are to do with burdens as Believers.

We looked at **verse 1 and 2** last week so we'll just briefly revisit there.

**I. PAUL SHOWS US HERE THAT SOME BURDENS ARE MEANT TO BE SHARED—FAULTS AND FAILURES! (Vs 1-3)**  
He speaks of when a fellow Believer is tempted and **"overtaken in a fault!"**

We saw last week how that if we are truly **SPIRITUAL**, we have a responsibility to **work at restoring** those in this condition!

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We shouldn't be pointing accusing fingers or shooting our wounded, but rather **we should reach down and give a helping hand to lift a brother or sister up, and help them get back on track as best we can!**

**We saw how we are supposed to minister to one another as Brethren when it comes to faults and failures.**

Something that will keep us from heeding the admonition of **vss. 1-2**, is to think that we personally are above ever needing this kind of help!

There are people like that...People who feel they are God's gift to the Church and to humanity, and actually feel good about themselves when others fall! It is the *"That would NEVER happen to me"* attitude!

Well isn't that just a self-righteousness attitude! Yes, and it is self-deception too! (**Vs 3**) Listen, we all need each other at times!

Every one of us is *"prone to wander"*, and we need each other!

**Faults and failures** are burdens that are meant to be shared.  
Paul shows us that!

**II. PAUL SHOWS US THAT SOME BURDENS ARE MEANT TO BE BORNE (Vs 5)**

Now this seems almost contradictory to *verse 2*. What's going on?

I believe these two verses are talking about two different kinds of burdens. Some are to be shared by others, but some burdens are meant to be borne. [i.e. alone]

There are some burdens which no one else can help you with!  
**So, what are some examples of burdens to be borne:**

**A. We Must Bear The Consequences Of Personal Sin!**  
(Galatians 6:7-8)  
Sin has consequences.

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We live in a day and time in which people want to sin as they wish and ignore the consequences and avoid them altogether! The attitude in society today is to absolve oneself of any personal responsibility: The attitude of *"It's not my fault..."*

It's my parents' fault...

It's my ex's fault...

It's my boss' fault...

It's society's fault...

It's anybody's fault but my fault...

I'm not discounting or minimizing the effects that our past and people in our past or present can sometimes have in our lives!

What I'm saying is that **in Jesus Christ you CAN get past your past!**

When we take the *"it's not my fault"* attitude too far, we wind up trying to shrug off all personal responsibility for our life and we can develop a victim's mentality where absolutely everything bad in our life is someone else's fault!

That's a lot of why we're in a mess today in our country as so many folks don't want to take personal responsibility for the choices they make!

Now I understand that certain things in our past can *"predispose"* us to certain things, but **we still make our choices**, and when we make our bed, we have to sleep in it! (When it comes to the consequences...Suck it up buttercup!)

Your parents lifestyle may have exposed you to all kinds of vices—alcohol, drugs, adultery, anger, and violence. But **you still have a choice to make** when personally tempted with the same things! We can rise above it and break the cycle of sin if we want to, with God's help. There's victory in Jesus if we want it!

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But if we do the crime...we must be willing to do the time!

The blame game and passing the buck have been around since Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden!

Ill.—Adam said, “*It’s that woman you gave me, God*”  
Eve said, “*It was that serpent, God.*” God was not impressed!  
**The consequences of their choices were still upon them!**

Sometimes we just need to say, “*I’m responsible!*” and accept the consequences and move on with our lives the best we can with God’s help!

We can choose to sin, but we cannot choose the consequences!

*We Must Bear The Consequences Of Our Sin! What else?*

**B. We Must Bear Standing Before God To Give Account!**

This is serious folks.

*Hebrews 9:27—“...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”*

**Everyone here will someday stand before God...alone!**

I cannot stand with you and no one will be standing with me!

We will all have to give an account to God one day!

*Romans 14:11-12 —“11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. 12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”*

**1. Every Believer Must Stand Before God One Day!**

We who are saved are secure in our salvation!

Jesus shouldered the punishment of our sin!

Thank God, the Christian’s sin has already been judged at Calvary, but we will give an account for how carefully or how carelessly we lived our life after we were saved!

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According to 1 Corinthians 3:13 we still will have to stand one day before the Judgment seat of Christ!

*1 Corinthians 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.*

The Bible says that some will suffer loss. If we think we can live a haphazard life as a Believer without consequence, we are badly and sadly mistaken!

**Our service, our stewardship, and our motives will all be judged**, and then rewards will be given for that which was done truly for Christ, Who knows our heart.

*Every Believer Must Stand Before God One Day!*

**2. Every Unbeliever Must Stand Before God One Day! (Revelation 20:11-15)**

The lost will have no hope at their judgment. They will stand before God with the **burden of sin** still on them!

There’s only one sin for which a person will go to hell...the sin of rejecting Jesus Christ as Savior.

*John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

If you need to be saved today and you reject the opportunity to get saved, you and your burden of sin are in danger of being cast into the lake of fire!

No matter which judgment you appear at...all the veneer and excuses will be stripped away...it’s just you and God!

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*Paul Shows Us Some Burdens That Are Meant To Be Shared...  
Faults and Failure.  
Paul Shows Us Some Burdens That Are Meant To Be Borne...  
Consequences Of Our Sin And Standing Before God!*

III. **WE KNOW FROM OTHER SCRIPTURE THAT SOME  
BURDENS ARE MEANT TO BE CAST ON THE LORD!**

*Psalm 55:22—"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."*

Jesus is our great burden bearer! Sometimes we cling to a burden and try to carry it ourselves! We can be deceived into thinking God wants us to carry something by ourselves as if we are somehow serving God by doing so! But realize **there are some burdens He wants to carry for us, if we'll let Him.**

*Matthew 11:28-30—"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [29] Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. [30] For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

When your burden is more than you can bear and you don't think you can take another step, why don't you just cast it on Jesus?

For some reason sometimes, we feel like we can make it ourselves. But there are times when we need to let it go and let God take it!  
**One of these two things will happen when we cast our burden on the Lord:**

**A. The Lord Will Lift The Burden...**

I've seen people have a health need, and they pray, and it goes away. Financial need...and God provides the money. Now the Lord can do that and it's always great when that happens. But that's not always how God works...

**B. The Lord Will Lift You...**

*Psalm 55:22* that I read said "...*He shall sustain thee.*"

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Sometimes the Lord doesn't lift the burden...sometimes He chooses to just lift you!

We've seen how the Apostle Paul is an example of this. 3 times He asked God to lift a burden he was carrying. God's answer was "*no, but I'll give you grace*".

Some folks get bitter toward God because they've asked Him to lift their burden and it doesn't seem that He has...but please realize it may be His will to lift you up, and carry you and that burden through it all.

But when we throw a perpetual pity party we don't allow Him to carry us or the burden either! "*He shall sustain THEE!*"  
*Illustration—There was a man walking down road with a big, heavy sack of potatoes on his shoulder. A man in a pick-up truck felt sorry for him and offered him a ride. He climbed in, but kept sack on his shoulder. After a while the driver looked over and said, "Man, why don't you put that sack in the floorboard and relax". He replied, "No sir, I'll not do it...it's bad enough that you'd carry me to town, I'm not gonna ask you to carry these taters too!"*

Now that makes about as much sense as what we do with the Lord sometimes. Are you carrying a burden that the Lord never intended for you to carry...but you seem to insist!?

*"I must tell Jesus, all of my trials, I cannot bear these burdens alone in my distress He kindly will help me, He ever loves and cares for His own."*

Why not come to the altar and cast your burden on the Lord and leave it there!

There are burdens meant to be shared...meant to be borne...meant to cast! Don't get them confused!