

1. The Challenge of the Cross

Galatians 6:11 See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. 12 Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to be circumcised, simply so that they will not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 For those who are circumcised do not even keep the Law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh.



• Emphasizing the cross may lead to persecution.



2. The Beauty of the Cross — New Creation

Galatians 6:14 But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. 16 And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

Emphasizing the cross comes with peace & mercy as the people of God live into the new creation in spite of the present persecution.



1. The Challenge of the Cross

Galatians 6:17 From now on let no one cause trouble for me, for I bear on my body the brand-marks of Jesus.

Acts 14:19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

- Paul suffered like Jesus had suffered.
- Jesus is our ultimate example.
- Jesus suffered before and on the cross.



2. The Beauty of the Cross — New Creation

Galatians 6:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

- In the ancient world, grace was a common good-bye.
- This grace is of the Lord Jesus Christ (King)
 & is for brothers and sisters in the kingdom.
- We can be free when, by grace, faith works itself out in <u>love</u> for God's glory.

1:3 <u>Grace</u> to you and peace <u>from God</u> our Father and the Lord Jesus <u>Christ</u>, 4 who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the <u>glory</u> forevermore. Amen.

- 1. Followers of Christ receive God's grace, God's riches & God's rule from God.
- 2. There is peace in doing God's will with a foretaste of glory divine in this evil age.

Practical Application:

- 1. Romans 15:33 Now the God of <u>peace</u> be with you all. Amen.
- 2. **Ephesians 6:23** Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.
- 3. **2 Thessalonians 3:16** Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!