

March 12, 2020

Expressive Love

Gal. 5:6, “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”

I love this statement made by Paul to those who are caught up in “religion” rather than a “relationship.” I’m going to make a bold declaration right here and now. The letter of the law is good. The letter of love is great! Let me explain. So many people in this world are caught in the trap of religious activity, thinking that if they do enough good things, it will somehow outweigh the bad things they have done. They might think, like many I’ve spoken to over the years, that if I do enough good, then somehow God will overlook the bad. Let me tell you something that may surprise you. God doesn’t grade on the curve, He grades on the cross! If you could do enough to earn your way into Heaven, then Jesus did not have to pay the price for your sins on the cross. Salvation comes through the “perfect” and “innocent” blood of the Lamb of God. Titus 3:5-6, “He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.”

Paul is declaring to all that it is not the law that saves, but it is the Lord that saves! You don’t keep the law to get salvation, you keep the law because of salvation. That’s why he then makes this statement - The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Did you get that? The only thing that counts! It is not how many times you’ve been to church. It is not memorizing the Bible. It is not giving of the tithe. It is not visiting the sick. Now all of these things are good for sure; but the greatest of these things is love produced by our faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. Someone wisely said many years ago: God is not so much interested in our doing but in our being. Meditate on that thought for a while.

Dear Father, help me to love You above all. I do want to be obedient to Your law, but it is because it is Your law. I want to serve You because of what You have done for me. Help my love to be expressed because of the faith I have in You. In Jesus Name, Amen