**“Let us not grow weary”**

*Galatians 6:9*

**Introduction**

1. Paul exhorted the Galatians to not grow weary in their doing good (**Galatians 6:9).**
2. We should not be unaware of Satan’s devices – **2 Corinthians 2:11**
	1. There are many things we can stumble in (**James 3:2**).
	2. The closer we are to Christ, the more subtle Satan’s ploys become – as we know how to discern good and evil (**cf. Hebrews 5:14**), he must be craftier to ensnare us.
3. Weariness is a trap Satan lays for the faithful.
4. The Text in Context
5. Faithful Brethren Sowing to the Spirit
	1. ***“you who are spiritual” (v. 1)***.
	2. Righteousness by faith, not by perfect keeping of law – **Galatians 5:1-6**
	3. Liberty, but not licentiousness – **Galatians 5:13**
	4. Spirit, not flesh – **Galatians 5:16-18, 22, 24-25**
		1. Sow to the Spirit – **Galatians 6:8** – Monetary? What evidence is there?
		2. Sowing to the Spirit = ***“Walk in the Spirit” (5:16)***
6. Faithful Brethren Calling Others to Faithfulness
	1. ***“Bear one another’s burdens” (v. 2)***.
	2. Faithful restoring erring – **Galatians 6:1-5**
		1. **(v. 1)** – Bearing burdens (in context) is calling erring to faithfulness.
		2. ***“Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching” (2 Timothy 4:2)***.
		3. **(vv. 3-4)** – not evaluating self by another’s failure – rather, ***“gentleness” (v. 1)*** – humility in service toward another.
		4. **(v. 5)** – acknowledge judgment to be based on own responsibility.
	3. Call to participate in things of the Spirit – **Galatians 6:6-8**
		1. Concerning financial support of preachers/teachers? – not in context.
			1. Share – *koinōneō* – sharing, fellowship, participation.
			2. “**distributing** to the needs of the saints” (Romans 12:13).
			3. “Gentiles have been **partakers** of their spiritual things” (Romans 15:27).
			4. “no church **shared** with me concerning giving and receiving but you only” (Philippians 4:15).
			5. “nor **share** in other people's sins” (1 Timothy 5:22).
			6. “the children have **partaken** of flesh and blood” (Hebrews 2:14).
			7. “rejoice to the extent that you **partake** of Christ's sufferings” (1 Peter 4:13).
			8. “for he who greets him **shares** in his evil deeds.” (2 John 11)
		2. “good things” = of the Spirit **(vv. 8-9)**
			1. **(v. 6)** – first thought of teaching? **(v. 1)** – restoration by teaching – who has the good things? – Spiritual.
			2. The teacher has the “good things” – relaying through teaching.
			3. The one who is taught is to receive, and “share in” (participate, fellowship; **cf. Acts 2:42**) the “good things” with the teacher – i.e. react in repentance to restorative effort **(v. 1).**
		3. **(vv. 7-8)** – do not think you will alter this immutable law of God – obey the teaching of God.
7. Faithful Brethren Who are Enduring the Burdens of Faithfulness
	1. ***“For each man shall bear his own burden.” (v. 1***, ASV)
	2. Call to not grow weary in doing good – **Galatians 6:9-10**
		1. Doing good? **(v. 9)** – sowing to the Spirit **(v. 8)** – everything that pertains to walking in the Spirit **(5:16, 25)** (including restoring erring, and others, **v. 1**).
		2. ***“We shall reap”*** – **(v. 8)** – ***“everlasting life”*** – the toil and sacrifice in service to Christ ends in reward.
		3. ***“if we do not lose heart”*** – do not be worn down and quit; endure – **(v. 10)** – at every opportunity.
	3. Jesus tells us to ***“count the cost”*** **(Luke 14:28).** Discipleship comes at a great cost of sacrifice, trial, and tribulation.
		1. Those who are “spiritual” have counted the cost.
		2. However, this does not minimize the cost, and the toll it takes on the faithful.
		3. The faithful need to take heart, not grow weary, and have faith in the harvest they will reap in sowing to the Spirit.
8. Do not grow weary with…
9. The Weight of the World (2 Peter 2:7-8)
	1. **2 Peter 2:7-8** – Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom, but the Holy Spirit revealed he maintained his righteous standing, though not without pain.
		1. Oppressed – *kataponeō* – *kata* “down,” *ponos* “labor” – tire down, wear down.
		2. Tormented – *basanizō* – to torture (Strong)
		3. Filthy conduct – among them – lawless deeds – HAD THIS EFFECT ON HIM BECAUSE HE WAS RIGHTEOUS (valued the things of God)
		4. Seeing and hearing – everywhere he turned there were unrighteous displays and language.
	2. Those who long for heaven (**2 Peter 3:13** – where righteousness dwells) are tormented by all that stands in antithesis to it.
	3. Foundations being destroyed – **Psalm 11:1-3**
		1. **Faith** – elitism (say faith is infantile), atheism, evolution, humanism, blasphemy, relativism.
			1. NOTE: Christians in school, and parents who are concerned.
		2. **Family** – nuclear family demonized, rampant divorce, cohabitation, role reversals, negligent parenting, ungodly philosophy.
			1. NOTE: being destroyed by the entertainment industry.
		3. **Morality** – hedonism, drugs + alcohol, LGBTQ+, profanity, hyper-sexualized society. (**cf. Isaiah 5:20**)
		4. **Do not grow weary** – **Psalm 11:4-7** – the Lord reigns and sees.
	4. The devil intends to wear down our faith – **Habakkuk 1:2-4, 13; 2:4** – live by faith.
		1. Do not grow weary, rejoice in the Lord – **Habakkuk 3:17-19**
10. The Weight of Truth (2 Timothy 4:1-8)
	1. Paul exhorting Timothy throughout to stand for truth no matter what he would be called to endure – **2 Timothy 1:7-8** (spirit of power, love, sound mind)
	2. Called to be the support of truth as God’s people – **1 Timothy 3:15** – equipped to uphold the truth no matter the opposition or trial, HOWEVER, DOES NOT IMPLY ANY EASE IN DOING SO – TAKES A TOLL.
	3. **2 Timothy 4:1-8** – in concluding letter, Paul exhorts all the more to uphold truth though others are unwilling to partake in the sacrifice of doing so.
		1. Exhortation – **(vv. 1-2)**
		2. Reason – **(vv. 3-5)** – some will request what is not sound.
			1. ***“not endure sound doctrine”*** – endure – *anechō* – *ana* “up,” *echō* “to hold” – “to regard w. tolerance, endure, bear with, put up with” (BDAG)
				1. **2 Corinthians 11:19-20** – “put up with”
				2. **Matthew 17:17** – “bear with you”
			2. Sound doctrine is what is good for us, but like medicine, it is sometimes unpleasant.
				1. ***“And I appeal to you, brethren, bear with [anechō] the word of exhortation” (Hebrews 13:22).***
		3. The faithful (spiritual ones) might undergo the temptation to give into what seems easier, but understand by faith it is deception – **2 Peter 2:17**
		4. Paul’s example – **(vv. 6-8)** – far from easy. Cause? – “sound doctrine” – fought for, ran with, protected.
11. The Weight of the Unfaithful (2 Thessalonians 3:6-15)
	1. **2 Thessalonians 3:6-15** – call to discipline disorderly w/ specific case of idleness.
		1. **(vv. 7-12)** – brethren taking advantage of generosity/liberality of others, not working, getting into the business of others.
			1. **(vv. 7, 11)** – “disorderly” (general word) – *atakteō* (**v. 7**, verb), ataktōs (**v. 11**, adverb)
				1. From – *ataktos* (adj) – ***“unruly” (1 Thessalonians 5:14)*** – “unarranged, i.e. (by implication) insubordinate (religiously)” (STRONG); “pert. to being out of step and going one’s own way, disorderly, insubordinate” (BDAG)
				2. General, describing any disobedience to the word.
		2. **(v. 6)** – withdraw from them (*ataktōs*).
		3. (**vv. 13-15**) – do not grow weary in this, admonish as brother.
			1. ***“doing good”*** – this action is sowing to Spirit, and will work for good.
			2. ***“do not keep company”*** – must be commanded BECAUSE THESE ARE PEOPLE WE WANT TO BE AROUND – love them.
			3. ***“not…enemy…but…brother”*** – we have not lost love, we have no hard feelings, WE DESPERATELY MISS THEM, AND ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THEM.
			4. ***“DO NOT GROW WEARY”***
				1. **1 Corinthians 5:2; 2 Corinthians 12:21** – MOURNING THEIR SPIRITUAL STATE.
				2. Same word – **Mark 16:10** – mourned Jesus’ death.
	2. Satan wants to weary us to jeopardize any possibility of the erring’s return:
		1. Regardless, not to fellowship sin/error – **Ephesians 5:11; 2 Corinthians 6:14**
		2. Not to do anything that would cause them to think they are okay in their sin – **2 John 10-11**
		3. Already hard, but what if – **Matthew 10:34-39** – family – cross (not easy).
			1. God understands – **Hosea 11:1-7**
			2. Father of prodigal son understands – **Luke 15:24** – ***“was dead”***
				1. The son had something to come back to.
		4. Do not grow weary, but pray or their return – **1 Corinthians 5:5; 2 Corinthians 2:6-8** – God’s will works, have faith/hope.
12. Overcome weariness by…
13. Exhorting One Another (**Hebrews 3:13; 10:24-25**)
	1. **Hebrews 3:12-14** – Exhortation to overcome the deceitful lure of sin to cut our faith short. **(Psalm 95:7-11**)
		1. Context of ***“do not grow weary”*** – **Galatians 6:7-9** – sin deceives the wearied into thinking sowing to flesh will bring enjoyment and will be inconsequential.
		2. **Israelites as an example** – Massah and Meribah – **Exodus 17; Numbers 20** – not having water to drink, abandoned faith and reverted to complaining and longing for their past life (in Egypt).
		3. **Solution** – Exhort one another daily. (What if the Israelites were doing this?)
	2. **Hebrews 10:24-25** – assembly designed for such exhortation – ***“stir up love and good works”***
	3. These commands indicate the importance of the community of faith – we all need the exhortation of the church, and God designed it that way. (language of community)
		1. **Ephesians 1:9-10** – things ***“gather[ed] together…in Christ”***
		2. **Ephesians 2:19-22** – ***“fellow citizens…members…household…fitted together…built together”***
		3. **Ephesians 4:16** – ***“joined and knit together…every joint supplies…every part does its share”***
		4. We need each other and strengthen each other as we each are strengthened by the Lord.
	4. Exhortation:
		1. Exhort – *parakaleō* – *para*, “to the side,” *kaleo*, “to call” (VINE)
			1. “Literally, a calling to one’s side to help.” (Vincent’s Word Studies)
			2. “to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, etc.” (THAYER)
			3. “to admonish, exhort, to urge one to pursue some course of conduct” (VINE)
				1. Hence, ***“to stir up love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24).***
		2. Exhortation – *paraklēsis* (*parakaleō* is root word) – **Acts 4:36** – Joses, Barnabas, “Son of Encouragement”
			1. Provided for the needs of brethren – **Acts 4:36-37**
				1. **(vv. 32a, 33)** – united in truth.
				2. **(vv. 32b, 34-35)** – relationship manifested in compassionate service of love.

**Cf. 1 Corinthians 12:25-26** – same care, share in suffering.

* + - * 1. **(vv. 36-37)** – Barnabas individually noted – part of his character.
				2. Acknowledges by faith the role played in God’s care for His children through personal liberality, and what such does for the faith of others – **James 2:14-17; 2 Corinthians 9:10-12**
			1. Vouched for Paul, and exhorted brethren to receive Him – **Acts 9:26-28**
				1. **Paul** – able to progress in faith, avoid being swallowed by sorrow, benefit from fellowship of saints.
				2. **Brethren in Jerusalem** – urged to do right thing/responsibility, given to intimate knowledge of God’s grace/mercy/forgiveness, edified/comforted in the prevailing power of the gospel in which they had a share (**cf. Galatians 1:22-24**).
			2. Encouraged brethren to continue in the grace of God – **Acts 11:22-24**
				1. Not spiteful about Gentile inclusion, but glad for their salvation – (**cf. Galatians 2:13** – all the more shocking).
				2. Urged them to faithfulness – purpose of heart to continue (temptations/trials to come, stay true)
			3. Was determined to take John Mark – **Acts 15:36-41**
				1. **Acts 13:13** – Mark had departed on the first trip (not told why).
				2. **(v. 38)** – Paul evidently took caution to this, seeing it as a sign of weakness, or lack of dependability.
				3. **(vv. 37, 39)** – Barnabas was determined to aid Mark in becoming an asset for the Lord. (***cf. “love…hopes all things,” 1 Corinthians 13:7***).
				4. Led to Paul’s restored confidence – **2 Timothy 4:11**
				5. **NOTE: both attitudes would have been good for Mark. What good would the sobering thought be without the urge to do better?**
	1. Exhortation involves:
		1. A call to faithfulness – **1 Thessalonians 2:10-12**
		2. A call to growth – **1 Thessalonians 4:1-2**
		3. A call to comfort through hope – **1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, 18; 5:11**
1. Rejoicing in the Lord (**Philippians 4:4**)
	1. ***“do not grow weary” (Galatians 6:9*)** – JOY IS THE OPPOSITE.
		1. Part of ***“doing good”/“sowing to the Spirit”*** – **Galatians 5:22**
		2. Takes effort, and spiritual mind – ***“you who are spiritual” (Galatians 6:1).***
			1. Even faithful brethren can lose perspective.
			2. **Must reorient ourselves in times of distress that we may maintain joy and overcome weariness.**
	2. ALWAYS – **Philippians 4:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:16**
		1. ***“as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing” (2 Corinthians 6:10)***.
		2. Not free from negative circumstances… (PAUL WRITING FROM PRISON)
		3. …free from the control of those negative circumstances.
	3. KEY – “***in the Lord”*** – “The early Christians did not say in dismay, 'Look what the world has come to', but they said in delight, 'Look what has come to the world!'" (Dr. Stanley Jones, “Abundant Living”)
		1. **1 Timothy 1:15** – Christ came to save sinners.
		2. **Acts 3:26, 19** – Christ sent to bless by forgiveness, times of refreshing.
		3. Being cleansed, joy in service to Christ – **John 15:1-2, 9-11; 1 John 1:3-4**
	4. Rejoicing in the Lord in Philippians:
		1. Fellowship in the Gospel (**1:3-6**)
			1. Joy is in participation in the gospel of Christ.
			2. In part – **Philippians 4:15** – monetary sharing (support of preaching).
			3. Broader – **(v. 7)** – as had Paul endured sacrifice for the sake of the gospel by God’s grace, so had the Philippians (**1:27-30**).
				1. **cf. Acts 5:40-42** – joy in being counted worthy to be a part of something so magnificent as the Lord’s will.
			4. **Acts 2:42** – continuing in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship.
		2. Gospel Success (**1:18**)
			1. **1:12-14** – imprisoned, but open door to preach. (Consider the full circle – prison in Philippi, preach; prison in Rome, preach)
			2. **1:15-18** – some enemies of Paul were preaching to hurt him (he does not say false doctrine), but he rejoiced that the gospel was preached.
			3. ***“the word of God is not chained” (2 Timothy 2:9)***.
		3. Like-Minded Humility of Brethren (unity) **(2:2**)
			1. **(vv. 1-2)** – Joy in having received blessings from God, having such care for those who have received the same.
				1. **Consolation in Christ** – encouragement in Him.
				2. **Comfort of love** – comfort associated with His love.
				3. **Fellowship of the Spirit** – relationship w/ Spirit through submission to His revelation.
				4. **Affection and mercy** – from Christ.
				5. **(v. 2)** – Paul’s joy would be fulfilled if the brethren took those blessings given them from above and allowed them to shape their relationship to each other.
			2. **(vv. 3-5**) – The like-mindedness is in the humble estimation of self in relation to others that expresses itself in service to them – like Christ for us.
			3. There is joy in being a part of a body of believers like this, who having been cared for by Christ are eager to relay such to others.
		4. Spiritual Fruit of Others **(4:10-11a, 14-19**)
			1. **(vv. 10-11a)** – Paul’s rejoicing in their support was not for the physical gift.
			2. **(vv. 17-19**) – Paul rejoices that they bore fruit to God, offering a sacrifice to Him in their giving, and that He was pleased with it.
				1. (**v. 19**) – because they are pleasing to God, God is going to care for them (Physically, spiritually)
			3. **3 John 2-4** – Joy that the Philippians are so involved, walking in truth, bearing fruit to God.
			4. **1 Timothy 6:19** – joy that they are storing up for eternity.
			5. That others are fruitful in Christ and have treasure in heaven is cause for rejoicing.
2. Rejoicing in Hope (**Romans 12:12**)
	1. Ironically, what we allow ourselves to be wearied by can lead us to a deeper relationship with Christ, and therefore greater joy.
		1. Example of Paul – **2 Corinthians 12:7-10** – the thorn became a tool to incite greater dependance on the strength of the Lord.
			1. ***“Boast”*** = ***“rejoice” “glory”*** (**Romans 5:2-3**)
		2. It drew him closer to the Lord, and thus the very thing that initially led to his weariness he found to bring him to a place of immeasurable joy.
	2. We are to be a people who rejoice in hope – **Romans 12:12**
		1. Not separated from ***“tribulation”*** – rejoicing in hope is during tribulation and helps with enduring such. (**cf. James 1:2-3)**
		2. Not only that, but tribulation, for ***“you who are spiritual” (Galatians 6:1)***, can lead to a greater sense of our hope, which translates into joy instead of weariness 🡪
	3. Following discussion of the nature of the apostolic ministry (**v. 7** – treasure in earthen vessels) – **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**
		1. **(v. 16)** – contrast – good outweighing bad.
		2. Not simply outweighing though – **(v. 17)** – affliction is ***“working for us”*** that ***“eternal weight of glory.”***
			1. Inward renewal/transformation = putting on Christ.
			2. Putting on Christ = preparing to finally be conformed to His glorious image (as the firstborn from the dead – **Romans 8:29-30**)
			3. How? – (**v. 18)** – OUR PHYSICAL AFFLICTION LEADS US TO LOOK UPWARD TO THE REALM OF THE ETERNAL THAT SUCH AFFLICTION CANNOT TOUCH. (**cf. Romans 8:18**)
	4. **Instead of growing weary, the Christian allows the tribulation to sever ties with the world and draw attention ever more to the eternal reward.**
		1. This takes weariness away and replaces it with hope.
		2. **Hebrews 6:19-20** – this hope anchors our souls in the continuing tempest of life until we are brought to our reward.

**Conclusion**

1. Weariness is powerful tool of the adversary. We must be aware of this.
2. The Christian must not grow weary, but take heart, and rest their hope fully on heaven.