

Breaking the Spell of Self-Confidence

Stopping the Drift Toward Error and Self-Confidence Through Dependence on the Holy Spirit
Galatians 3:1-5 Chris Mueller 11-13-2022

Introduction:

Galatians 3:1 You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? **2** This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? **3** Are you so foolish? Having begun BY the Spirit, are you now being perfected BY the flesh? **4** Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? **5** So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

#1 Grow _____ in the crucifixion of Christ for you **1**

1 You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?

Calvin For when we hear that the Son of God, with all His blessings, is rejected and that His death is esteemed as nothing, what godly mind will not break out into indignation? As far as Paul was able to tell, the Galatians were guilty of sheer spiritual stupidity.

1 Corinthians 1:18 ... the word of the cross...

1 Corinthians 1:23 ... we preach Christ crucified...

1 Corinthians 2:2 ... determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

#2 Trust in _____ upon the Holy Spirit **2-4**

2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? **3** Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? **4** Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

Romans 8:9b But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

1st Depend on the Spirit in _____ **2**

2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

2nd Depend on the Spirit in _____ 3

3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

John Stott They did not deny that you must believe in Jesus for salvation, but they stressed that you must be circumcised and keep the law as well. In other words, you must let Moses finish what Christ has begun. Or rather, you yourself must finish, by your obedience to the law, what Christ has begun. You must add your works to the work of Christ. You must finish Christ's unfinished work.

Philippians 1:6 *For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*

Matthew 26:41b *the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak*

3rd Recall the Spirit's _____ as a believer 4

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

Ephesians 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ*

2 Peter 1:3 *seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*

#3 Believe in the _____ provision of the Father for you 5

5 So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Acts 1:4 *not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised*

Luke 11:13 *And when He, the Spirit of truth comes*

John 16:13 *He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak*

1 Corinthians 2:4 *in demonstration of the Spirit and of power*

Ephesians 3:20 *is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us*

Take Home:

A. Living in Christ is a life of _____

B. Living in Christ is a life of _____ upon the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 *be filled with the Spirit*

C. Living in Christ is a life of _____ by the Holy Spirit

D. Living in Christ only comes as you _____ to self and live to Christ

Mark 8:34b *If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me*

John 14:6 *I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.*

Questions for Growth in Christ

1. How can you determine if someone else is being self-confident or Christ-confident?
2. How can you determine if you yourself are being self-confident or Christ-confident?
3. How does the crucifixion of Christ cause believers to rely on God and not themselves?
4. Why did the Judaizers want Christians to be Jews in practice?
5. How does the Spirit work in your salvation and your sanctification?
6. How does God's provision and work through us cause us to rely on Him and not ourselves?
7. How can you as a Christian live in the Spirit and not in the flesh more and more each day?
8. What specific steps will you take to apply this passage to your life in coming weeks?



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