

BEAR
ONE ANOTHER'S
BURDENS

Galatians 6:1-10

THE CALL TO BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS (vv. 1-5)

“You who are spiritual” (vv. 1-2)

- A contrast between the “*spiritual*” one, and one “*overtaken in any trespass.*”
- The “*spiritual*” one:
 - 5:16-18 – he is not doing as he pleases according to the flesh.
 - 5:24-25 – he is walking in the Holy Spirit’s teaching.
(cf. *Romans 8:5-9* – spiritually minded)

THE CALL TO BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS (vv. 1-5)

“You who are spiritual” (vv. 1-2)

- The conflict (6:1) – sees a brother who is in sin, i.e. not walking in the Spirit.
- Restoration is attempted (v. 1).
 - This is accomplished through teaching – *2 Timothy 3:16; 4:2*
- In doing so, the “*spiritual*” one is bearing another’s burdens (v. 2).
 - He is fulfilling the law of Christ – *5:14; John 13:34; 1 Peter 4:8; James 5:19-20*

THE CALL TO BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS (vv. 1-5)

You who are “*nothing*” (vv. 3-5)

- NOTE: The spirit possessed by the one doing the restoring – gentleness (v. 1). (5:23 – of the fruit of the Spirit)
 - Gentleness – *praotēs* – the quality of not being overly impressed by a sense of one’s self-importance, gentleness, humility, courtesy, considerateness, meekness. (BDAG)
- This characteristic of gentleness (*praotēs*) will lead the “*spiritual*” one to aid his brother by restoring him rather than turning away in pride.

THE CALL TO BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS (vv. 1-5)

You who are “*nothing*” (vv. 3-5)

- This characteristic of gentleness (*praotēs*) will lead the “*spiritual*” one to aid his brother by restoring him rather than turning away in pride.
- (vv. 3, 4) – Describes the man lacking gentleness (*praotēs*) who does not bear his brother’s burden. Instead, he evaluates himself by the failure of the one caught in trespass.
- (v. 5) – Such is unwise because our own “*load*” (obligation, responsibility, task) must be borne ourselves. It is not fulfilled through another’s successes, or failures.

THE PROPER RESPONSE TO BEING RESTORED (vv. 6-8)

Share in the Spirit's Teaching (v. 6)

- “*doing good*” (v. 9) = sowing to the Spirit (v. 8) = “*good things*” (v. 6)
- The teacher is the one with the “*good things*” (matters pertaining to the Spirit’s teaching) and the one taught is instructed to participate or share with him in them.
- I.e. the one caught in trespass is supposed to accept the teaching, correction, reproof, and/or rebuke of the “*spiritual*” one seeking to restore him and fall in line with the Spirit’s teaching.

Do Not Deceive Yourself (vv. 7-8) – warning about failing to respond favorably, and not repenting and sharing in the Spirit’s teaching.


THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE OF DOING GOOD *(vv. 9-10)*

Do Not Lose Heart *(v. 9)*

- General submission to the Spirit's direction is a constant fight/struggle – *5:16-17*
- Approaching a brother in sin to restore them is never easy – *(v. 1)*
- Being convicted of sin, making the corrections, and doing better is a struggle – *(v. 6)*

Be Earnest and Diligent in Doing Good *(v. 10)*

- Since we will be rewarded for such, we should be eager to do it.
- Especially when it concerns the welfare of our spiritual family *(cf. v. 1)*.



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