

"Bear One Another's Burdens"

Gal. 6:1-5

Introduction:

- A. We, as Christians, must bear each other's burdens.
 - 1. "It is the law." (v. 2) (Ill. Sign on state lines about seat belts)
 - a. Christians are under law to Christ. (I Cor. 9:21)
 - b. Christians to obey whole law. (Jas. 2:8-10).
 - 2. It is opposite of self-centeredness. (v. 3)
 - 3. It is not relieving another of responsibility. (vs. 4,5).
 - 4. It is part of doing good. (v. 10).
 - 5. It is conditioned on opportunity. (v.10).
- B. We, as Christians, have a variety of burdens to bear.

Discussion:

- I. **Guilt Burdens.** (v. 1)
 - A. Speaking of one *overtaken* in a fault.
 - 1. Burdened with guilt.
 - 2. Burdened with discouragement
 - 3. Especially calls for gentleness.
 - 4. Wants and needs our forgiveness and encouragement.
 - B. Not speaking of one *persisting* in a fault - calls for sharpness (Tit. 1:13)
- II. **Congregational Burdens.**
 - A. Provisions for congregational activities.
 - 1. Physical facilities.
 - 2. Financial matters.
 - 3. Work details for work and worship of church.
 - B. Each must do his share. (Eph. 4:16).
- III. **Financial Burdens.**
 - A. Each has responsibility to provide for self and his own. (Eph. 4:28; 2 Thess. 3:10; ; 1 Tim. 5:8).
 - B. But, sometimes burden too heavy for self - need help. (Rom. 12:13; Acts 11:27ff).
- IV. **Physical and Emotional Burdens.**
 - A. Sickness. (Matt. 25:43; Jas. 5:14,15).
 - 1. Avoid tiring visits.
 - 2. Avoid discouraging words.
 - B. Bereavement. (Rom. 12:15 cf. Jesus came to Lazarus).
 - C. Other misfortunes.
- V. **Responsibility Burdens.**
 - A. The responsibility of parenthood. (Eph. 6:4)
 - 1. Children can help parents bear this.
 - 2. Others can help parents bear this.
 - B. The responsibility of leadership. (Heb. 13:17).
 - C. The responsibility of teaching. (Jas. 3:1,2).
 - 1. Do we help or add to their burden?
 - 2. Do we make job harder or easier?
 - 3. Do we make self adversary or ally?

Conclusion:

- A. "Bear a burden", not "Be a burden".
- B. Let Lord have your burden today by obeying Him.