



**SERIES: WE ARE FREE (A Study of Galatians) December 2022 – January 2023**

**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**

**Thursday, January 19, 2023**

**Scripture: Galatians 6:3-5**

**TITLE: True Humility**

How would you define humility? In today's world we may not even know what humility is to even define it. Is humility thinking of yourself as a loser? I think many people settle on this definition. Is humility thinking less of yourself? Or is it thinking of yourself less? I think humility rightly defined is seeing yourself correctly. Nothing more and nothing less but seeing yourself as God sees you.

This is the opposite of what the world will tell you today. The world will tell you to tap into your personal power. To think it if you want to be it. To believe in yourself and tell the rest of the world to take a leap.

So who has it right? The world or God? That's what we want to talk about today as we look at Galatians chapter 6 beginning in verse three.

*For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load.*

So what is the Apostle Paul saying here? It almost sounds like he's saying that both the world and God have it right. That humility is seeing ourselves rightly, but also, if it's meant to be it's up to me.

Well Paul says if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. That is the definition of humility. Seeing yourself rightly. Knowing that apart from the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ we are nothing. Spiritually dead.

Thinking otherwise is like taking the credit for something that you had no part of. Imagine walking into the house of your dreams, and as you walk around I come up to you and tell you all about the house, how long it took to build, how much money it took to build, how I had designed the house, how I had earned the money for the house. But then you find out that I actually don't own the house, didn't pay for the house and have no connection to the house. You would realize I was a fool and was deceiving myself.

That's what we do when we take credit for any part of our salvation. That's what we do when we think that we can be good apart from God. That's what we do when we act holier than thou. Apart from God we are desperately wicked according to the Bible. It is God who saves us and transforms us.

And because He transforms us, He restores our motives. You see God calls us to examine ourselves to see if what we have done and what we are doing are for the right reasons. Are we doing things to honor God? Are we doing them out of our love for God? Or are we trying to impress somebody else? Are we trying to raise our stock value with someone else? Are we trying to make people feel worse about themselves so we feel better? Paul says if you are walking with God your motives will be right.

In other words, we will live well with right intentions. We will live in a way that honors God and that is beneficial to the community. That's why Paul says we will bear our own load. In whatever ministry we have, we will do what God has asked us. In the everyday routine of life, we will do our part. We won't try to get out of doing the full load. We won't do it with wrong motives. No we will live in a way that is pleasing to God and beneficial to those around us. But this all begins with knowing who we are in Christ.

Today examine yourself. Ask yourself, "Am I living for God or for myself?" Am I more concerned about other people or my own walk with God? Today remember God saved you not because of what you could do but rather because of who He is. God does not love you because of what you do, but rather because who you are. If that's humility, I'll take it all day long. Will you?