INTRODUCTION to the text Galatians 6:15-18

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. 16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. 17 From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. 18 Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

THE FINAL ANSWER IS...

1.) God wants you Blessed vv. 15-16

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. 16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.
a.) Blessed - by giving us a brand new start

Verse 15

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

Skin Cut Off / How-a-bout a Little More? Look I’ve Had A lot Cut Off - It Says Anything!

The Bankruptcy of External, Fleshy Religion

a new creation

2 Corinthians 5:16-17
Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

a new creation

Ezekiel 36:25-27
"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

a new creation

Titus 2:13-14
looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

GOD THE FATHER DOES THIS
**b.) Blessed - by allowing us a little peek**

**Verse 16**

And (for) as many as walk “according to this rule…”

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**The Awesome Reality**

**The RULE is = be a new creation**

*allowing us a little peek
A NEW LIFE & HEAVEN TOO*

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**The “Rule” Being**

*That man-made, external rituals, and religious practices have no value to God.*

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**That, Even the Old Testament Requirements are Bankrupt Now...**

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**The Rule is**

*The law brings death to all those who embrace legalism. They are dead in rites and requirements and human efforts*

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**Romans 10:1-4**

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.
2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

But The Rule is Greater

To those who are of the “new creation” they have “This Rule”
That they now exist, a “New Creation” in Christ who have been:

- Forgiven of their sins
- Declared righteous before God
- Placed into the Family of God
- Made Acceptable for Heaven

2 Timothy 1:9
it is he who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

2 Peter 1:11
for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God wants you Blessed

c.) Blessed - by uniting us to Him

Verse 16

Peace and mercy be upon them, (born again Gentiles) and upon the Israel of God. (born again Jews)

The “Them”
Are the Believing Gentiles of Galatia who believed in Jesus as Christ

and the “Israel of God”
Are those Hebrew’s who Have Come to Believe in Jesus as Messiah

peace and mercy
no more wars with God and no longer under his judgement

The World is Running Around
Trying to Make People Get Along

ONLY GOD CAN DO THAT – but it’s through Jesus Christ!

I John 2:1-2
My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Advocate 3875 parakletos (par-ak'-lay-tos);
one who is alongside you to represent your case.
An intercessor, comforter, a defender

One who is alongside you to represent your case

Your case / my case = stinks!!!

ATTONERY AT LAW
The Court is…
The Father, Satan, Jesus & You

NOTICE
Grace is not mentioned here because he has for 6 chapters been arguing for grace. Grace is assumed, implied!

PEACE AND MERCY

THE FINAL ANSWER IS…

2.) God wants you Encouraged  vv. 17

From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

God wants you Encouraged

a.) Earth time is no longer a factor

Verse 17

From now on

b.) Man’s opinions are no longer a matter
Verse 17

let no one trouble me,

We can stand firm, immovable

1 Corinthians 15:58
Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Proverbs 29:25
The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Man’s opinions are no longer a matter

The Front Page of the News Paper

It’s Man’s Opinion

Acts 4:17-21
"But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name." 18 And they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. 20 "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." 21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way of punishing them, because of the people, since they all glorified God for what had been done.

Man’s opinions are no longer a matter

We Are Free from All That

c.) Human rituals no longer have any value
Verse 17

for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

If you want to talk about circumcision and outward signs of proof that someone belongs to God

Paul could have taken off his shirt

The Marks

Physical Evidence of Association with Christ

 Marks  grk  4742 stigma-ta (stig'-mah);
a mark, carving, stick or cutting. An incision or punch through. A physical brand or scar of service or a marking of ownership.

2 Corinthians 11:23-28
Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.
From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one.
Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep;
in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;
in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.

Acts 16:37
And Paul said to them all “They have beaten us openly,

A Believers Scars are Marks of Ownership
Jesus’ Example

Zechariah 13:6
“And one will say to him, ‘What are these wounds between your arms?’ Then he will answer, ‘Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.’

Zechariah 12:9-10
“It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.
“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they have pierced; they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

THE FINAL ANSWER IS...

3.) God wants you Overjoyed vv. 18

Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

THE FINAL ANSWER IS...

God wants you Overjoyed

a.) Because - we have a new family

Verse 18

Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ…

It’s Jesus’ Grace

THE FINAL ANSWER IS…
God wants you Overjoyed

b.) Because - He has given us His attention

Verse 18

Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Grace

grk 5485 charis (khar'-ece);
To be given benefits. Favor, gifts, pleasures, that result in the “graced” being "cheerful", calm, happy, well-off, glad, in a state of rejoicing

Jeopardy

Total Peace and Forgiveness of Sins, Direction and Meaning to Life, Assurance of Heaven, and Love Eternal…

What is…

the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen?

The Lord Delights in His people

Zephaniah 3:17
The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will quiet you with His love, he will rejoice over you with singing."

THE FINAL ANSWER IS…
God wants you Overjoyed

c.) Because - His grace will take us to Heaven

Verse 18

Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Just in Case
There might be any doubt, Paul says…

Amen!

Amen Hebrew 281 amen (am-ane'); it is trustworthy; it is truth, it is reality, it is a fact

THE FINAL ANSWER IS…

Zechariah 4:6-7
So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts. 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of "Grace, grace to it!'" "

WHAT IS YOUR FINAL ANSWER TO THE THINGS OF CHRIST?
Jeremiah 8:20
"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we’re not saved!"

Matthew 11:16-19
"But to what shall I liken this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions, 17 "and saying: 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we mourned to you, and you did not lament.' 18 "For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' 19 "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a gluttonous man and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children."