

Closing Words of Counsel Galatians 6:11-18

I. Genuine Leaders – 6:11-15

1. Paul's genuine concern for them – 11
 - He wrote this letter himself
 - His normal pattern - 2 Thess. 3:17
 - Used large letters - indicating distress
 - Perhaps a sight problem – Galatians 4:15
 - Evidence of Paul's love of them
2. Warning against legalists – 12-13
 - They are concerned about promoting self
 - They fear persecution for Cross of Christ
 - They are interested in counting converts
3. Paul's commitment to Christ – 14, 15
 - Issue; cross of Christ not circumcision
 - To Judaizers the cross was a curse, a shame
 - To Paul it was the focus of his glory
 - Issue; new birth not some external ritual
 - Circumcision was an external symbol
 - New birth brings inward transformation

II. Final Blessing – 6:16-18

1. Walk in God's Way – 16
 - Brings blessing of peace and mercy
 - Abraham's blessings is on true sons
 - Those who walk by faith as Abraham did
2. Identify with Jesus Christ – 17
 - Those who identify will also suffer
 - Paul counts it an honor to suffer for Christ
 - Marks of Christ better than mark of circumcision
3. Blessing of our Lord's grace - 18
 - Paul's closing greeting is focused on grace
 - God's grace comes to us in our Lord Jesus
 - We are saved by His grace
 - Apart from any works or goodness in us
 - We are sustained by grace
 - We are to live each day by His grace
 - This grace is received in our spirit
 - That part that is alive unto God
 - Capable of fellowshiping with God