

Summary of Galatians 6

In Galatians 6, Paul concludes his letter with practical exhortations about living out Spirit-led freedom in community. He calls believers to gently restore those caught in sin, carry one another's burdens, and examine their own lives humbly. A central warning stands out: "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." Those who sow to please the flesh will reap destruction, but those who sow to please the Spirit will reap eternal life. Paul urges perseverance in doing good, reminding believers that spiritual harvest comes in due time. The chapter closes with a renewed focus on boasting only in the cross of Christ, emphasizing that what ultimately matters is the new creation, not external religious performance.

Summary of Ephesians 1-2

Ephesians 1 is a sweeping declaration of God's sovereign grace and eternal purpose. Paul proclaims that God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. Repeatedly using the phrase "in Him," Paul anchors every spiritual blessing—election, adoption, redemption, forgiveness, inheritance, and the sealing of the Holy Spirit—in union with Christ. Redemption comes through His blood, according to the riches of God's grace, lavished upon us freely. The chapter highlights that salvation originates in God's eternal plan, accomplished through Christ, and applied by the Spirit, all for the praise of His glory

In Ephesians 2, Paul moves from theology to transformation, describing how believers were once dead in sin but have been made alive in Christ. Salvation is entirely by grace through faith—"not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Yet grace does not produce passivity; verse 10 declares that we are God's workmanship (or handiwork in the new NIV), created in Christ Jesus for good works prepared in advance for us to do. The chapter also emphasizes reconciliation and unity, using language such as peace, one body, one Spirit, joined together, and built together. Christ is our peace, breaking down the dividing wall between Jew and Gentile, forming one new humanity. In Him, believers are no longer strangers but members of God's household, united and built together into a dwelling place for God by His Spirit.

Reflection Questions

1. Galatians 6 teaches that we reap what we sow. What patterns are you currently sowing into your life—spiritually, relationally, morally—and what kind of harvest are they producing?
2. Paul says God cannot be mocked. In what subtle ways can we attempt to live contrary to God's design while still expecting His blessing?
3. What does it look like to “carry one another's burdens” in your current community? Who is carrying yours? Whose are you helping to carry?
4. Ephesians 1-3 repeatedly uses the phrase “in Him.” How does your understanding of identity change when you see every spiritual blessing as flowing from union with Christ rather than personal effort?
5. If God chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless, how should that shape both your humility and your confidence?
6. Ephesians 2:10 says we are God's workmanship, created for good works. What specific good works might God have prepared in advance for you in this current season?
7. Ephesians 2 emphasizes being built together into one body. How are you actively contributing to the unity, maturity, and spiritual health of the body of Christ around you?