

October 26

**Galatians 6:4: But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.**

The apostle Paul gives this exhortation to the believer in contrast with the will-worker who “desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.” (Gal 6: 13)

Every sinner in whom the Spirit of Christ dwells is given a single eye for Christ. He is given a heart to rejoice in the gospel of Christ. As he hears how Christ bore his burden in his own body on the tree, the believer is constrained to take the burden off his brother and bear it himself. By his own conversion, he knows the power of the Lord Jesus to save through the gospel. So instead of constraining with the heavy bondage of the law, he speaks the comforting word of the gospel of Christ and him crucified to his brother. It is because he has the law of Christ—the law of faith and love—written on his heart. The power of Christ constrains him like no carnal restraint can.

The believer proves his own work in all of this by trusting his Lord's ability rather than resorting to his own strength and means. By patiently waiting on the Holy Spirit, he proves he knows that the work which the believer has been given is to simply hold forth the word of life and to wait on God to make the word effectual in his brother's heart. His own heart is settled by the persuasion of grace that Christ alone has redeemed all God's elect, is able to call them through the gospel and is able to make fallen brethren stand through the same gospel. When he beholds Christ do the work then he has "rejoicing in himself alone", that is, in Christ in his own heart, rather than glorying in his brother's flesh. It is the Spirit that mortifies the deeds of the body, not the flesh. (Rom 8: 8-16). May God give us grace to trust God to do what only he can!