



Daily Reflections

October 6, 2016

Scripture

Galatians 3:1-5

O stupid Galatians!

Who has bewitched you,

before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?

I want to learn only this from you:

did you receive the Spirit from works of the law,

or from faith in what you heard?

Are you so stupid?

After beginning with the Spirit,

are you now ending with the flesh?

Did you experience so many things in vain?—

if indeed it was in vain.

Does, then, the one who supplies the Spirit to you

and works mighty deeds among you

do so from works of the law

or from faith in what you heard?

Our Scripture Reflection

Change is not easy. The influence of the Jewish teachers who came to Galatia after Paul had converted the Galatians was powerful. After all, the Galatians had to make a most important decision with regard to the salvation of their very souls: Obedience to the Law or to Jesus Christ. Paul gets frustrated with them as we read in his opening salutation to them, "O Stupid Galatians." In time and because of a lot of passionate teaching and preaching, Paul would win the Galatians over to Christ. He had to really work for it but for Paul, they were worth every drop of sweat.

Food for your Journey

There's a heartwarming article in a recent issue of *Sports Illustrated* (R. Reilly, "A Gentleman and a Scholar," 27 December 1993, 28-32) about Charlie Ward, the Florida State quarterback who won last year's Heisman Trophy. The article talks about his religious training, his being a role model of exemplary character and the good deeds he has done. There is even a picture of Ward reading the Bible in that article.

In one section of the article, Doug Williams, former Washington Redskins quarterback who had met Ward only one time, telephoned Ward and asked him to "look out for" a young freshman football player who was coming to Florida State from Louisiana. The freshman's mother, who was a police officer, had recently been murdered in the line of duty. Charlie Ward not only looked after that young freshman football player but made him his roommate.

Then Doug Williams asked, "How many Heisman Trophy winners would make a 'freshman nobody' his roommate?"

Personally, I think Charlie Ward made that "freshman nobody" his roommate because Charlie Ward knows that both he and his freshman roommate are somebodies. And he knows they are both somebodies because of God's grace.--Hal Brady, "Can We Talk?" Dallas, Texas, 9 January 1994.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You are my light and my salvation! Help me to walk Your path and to remain faithful to Your way. Amen.

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