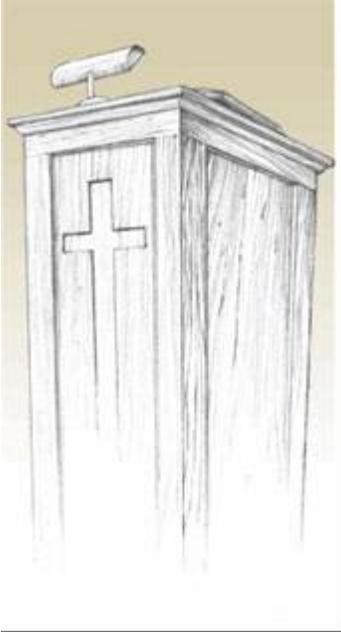


SERMON SUMMARY

Date: February 4, 2007	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: Galatians 6: 11-18
Topic: Contemplating the Legacy and Continuing the Dream...the Price of Freedom	



The cross is central to the liberation of humankind and all who would be free and see the freedom of others must go the way of the cross. The book of Galatians records the struggle of Paul to maintain both his freedom and that of the churches he planted against the misguided religionists of his day. Therefore he was contending with those who promoted ritual over a life transforming relationship with God. In 6:11-18 Paul dealt with the challenge by:

- ✦ Close and personal touch in his appeal
- ✦ Blowing the Cover of religious pretenders
- ✦ Emphasizing Commitment to Christ
- ✦ Character enhancing testimony

Verse 11 can be said to be Paul's Signature, which signifies a call to **ADDRESS PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT**. Marcus Garvey once said, "I read 'Up from Slavery' then my dream of being a race leader was born". This is comparable to Jesus making Himself nothing,

taking the very nature of a servant. This demands of to not just to Support because the fact is that we need to accept responsibility.

In verses 12-13, we read of People's Sham seen in:

- catching eyes (verse 12a)
- cover to escape (verse 12b)
- ceremony not essence (verse 13a)
- capitalism not example (verse 13b)

This is a call to **ADDRESS PUBLIC IMPRESSION**. Rosa Parks once said, "The only tired I was, was tired of giving in." Jesus Himself said "not as the hypocrites do...that they may have the praise of men." This is not just for show because the fact is that it is about being against running.

Paul's Submission is spoken of verses 14-16, seen in:

- his glory-the cross (verse 14)
- his focus-new creation (verse 15)
- his assurance – consolation in Christ (verse 16)

This is a call to **ADDRESS PERSONAL INDWELLING**. "If a man hasn't discovered something he would die for, he isn't fit to live" – Martin Luther King Jr. Those words echo that of Jesus when He declared that "Greater love hath no man than this, than a man lay down his life for his friends." This is not just for safety because the fact is that it is about advancing regardless of danger.

Verses 17-18 speak of Paul's sincerity as seen in:

- his evidence – marks (verse 17)
- his benediction - grace (verse 18)

This is a call to **ADDRESS PERSONAL INTEGRITY**. Martin Luther King Jr. again said, "There comes a time when one must take a position not because it is safe...but

because it is right.” Jesus emphasizes this quote in His comments when He said that “For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.” This is not just to say but more about advancing in respect.

Respect for the freedom won for us to live Christian and Civilized lives must go beyond ritual and admiration to personal connection. We must therefore earnestly and individually enquire...“Lord what would you have me to do?”