

“The Three 'Bears'”

Gal. 6:1-18

Introduction

- I. One of the most enduring stories is the one about the three bears.
- II. However, the three “bears” of Galatians six are far more important, and they need to be told more than any fairy tale.
 - A. Bear one another burdens (Gal. 6:2).
 - B. Bear your own burdens (Gal. 6:5).
 - C. Bear the marks of Jesus (Gal. 6:17).

Discussion

- I. Christians are to bear the burdens of their fellow brethren (Gal. 6:2; revisit verse one).
 - A. The verb form indicates that this is an ongoing process and not just a single, one time action.
 - B. The “good” Samaritan is a great example of burden bearing (Luke 10:30-37).
 - C. Remembering our own weaknesses and failures will aid in helping others to make it through theirs (James 5:16).
 - D. Do we really love our brethren (1 Pet. 2:17; 4: 8; Rom. 13:8; 1 John 3:16; 4:11).
- II. Christians are to bear their own burdens (Gal. 6:5).
 - A. In the end, we are responsible for our own decisions and actions.
 - B. This is something that is required of every person (2 Cor. 5:10).
 - C. We cannot blame our sins on others (Ezek. 18:20; cf. Prov. 28:13).
- III. We are to bear the marks of Jesus in our own bodies (Gal. 6:17).
 - A. There will be “battle scars” in our walk with the Lord (2 Tim. 2:15; cf. 2 Cor. 11:23-33).
 - B. Are we really willing to endure whatever it takes to remain loyal to our Lord (Phil. 1:20-21).
 - C. He was willing to do it for us, and we are not greater than our Master (Matt. 10:24-33).

Conclusion

- I. Will we do our part in learning and teaching the three “bears” of Galatians six?
- II. By so doing, our lives will be more the way that God wants them to be.