What Does the Law of Love Demand?

Intro:

- 1. The greatest commandment Lord Jesus gave us was as I have loved you, so you must love one another Jn 13:34.
- 2. James called it The Royal Law (Jam 2:8)
- 3. So what does this "Law of Love" demand?

Galatians 6:1-10

I. v1-6 - It Demands a Different Attitude

- A. v1-2 A different attitude towards a weaker brother.
 - 1. v1 Someone who is caught in a sin.
 - a. προλαμβάνω = lit: to receive in advance, to be caught by surprise.
 - b. παράπτωμα = sinned, made a false step.
 - 2. The stronger brother is to restore him.
 - a. "Restore" (καταρτίζω) means to gently put him together like a doctor resets a broken bone or a fisherman mends his net.
 - b. It's to be done "gently" (πραϋτης) in a spirit of meekness, humbly, not arrogant because you could be tested (caught) next (Golden Rule).
 - c. You should voluntarily sacrifice your freedom in deference to your brother (Rom 14:15).
 - 3. v2 The stronger brother is to carry his brother's burdens (a weight that may be too heavy to carry alone)
- B. v3-5 A different attitude towards yourself.
 - 1. v5 Although we must help the other brother, we are still responsible for our own burden.
 - a. "Load" (φορτίον) a burden that can be carried alone.
 - b. The more mature you are in the faith, the heavier the burden you can carry.
 - 2. v4 Even if you are a stronger brother, don't brag about it.
 - a. Bragging isn't the way to "win friends & influence people".
 - b. v3 You may not be as big as you think you are.
 - 3. v4 You can be proud of work well done, just don't broadcast it.
- C. v6 A different attitude towards your preacher.
 - 1. This means a good preacher deserves a salary.
 - a. "Share" (κοινωνέω) is where we get our word "coin".
 - b. "Good things" (ἀγαθός) are those things that benefit, like money.
 - 2. Lord Jesus said, A laborer is worthy of his hire Lk 10:7, as did the Apostle Paul (I Tim 5:18).

II. v7-8 - It Demands a Definite Commitment

- A. v7 A farmer reaps what he sows.
 - 1. v7 You have a definite choice to make: whatever you plant you will reap.
 - 2. You must decide what crop will benefit you the most & commit yourself to it.
- B. As God's natural laws of reproduction cannot be mocked, neither can His spiritual ones!
 - 1. v7 "Mocked" (μυκτηρίζω) means to sneer at, lit: "turn up your nose" at.
 - 2. v8 Many believe they can play with sex. God means for your to make a definite commitment sexually.
 - a. If you "sow" to please your natural desire, you will "reap" what that life offers destruction!
 - b. If you "sow" to please the Spirit of God, you will "reap" what the Spirit offers eternal life!

III. v9-10 - It Demands a Disciplined Tolerance

- A. v9 You must never become weary as you live this Spirit oriented life.
 - 1. Sometimes it seems like the world oriented person is the one who prospers.
 - 2. Here I am having a rough time financially & he gets things on a silver platter!
 - 3. Here I am having one tragedy after another & he doesn't know what heartache is!
- B. v8 But he will experience heartache at the Judgment!
 - 1. Patience & faithfulness to God bring joy & peace ultimately in the eternal rest.
 - 2. Self-pleasure is for this life only. But this life will end!
 - So while this life is here & you have the opportunity, give of yourself to others & especially to the household of faith v10.

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