

GALATIANS

free



C.S. Lewis

I believe that in all men's lives at certain periods, and in many men's lives at all periods between infancy and extreme old age, one of the most dominant elements is the desire to be inside the local Ring and the terror of being left outside. . . .

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C.S. Lewis

...Unless you take measures to prevent it, this desire is going to be one of the chief motives of your life, from the first day on which you enter your profession until the day when you are too old to care.

“The Inner Ring”

GALATIANS

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The only Table—the only Inner Ring

GALATIANS *free*



Rise, Peter; kill and eat.

*What God has made
clean, do not call
common.*

Acts 10:13, 15

*Peter's vision at Joppa,
C. Malcolm Powers*

GALATIANS

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At His table—in His ring:

- Invited without qualification

GALATIANS *free*

Galatians 2:15-16

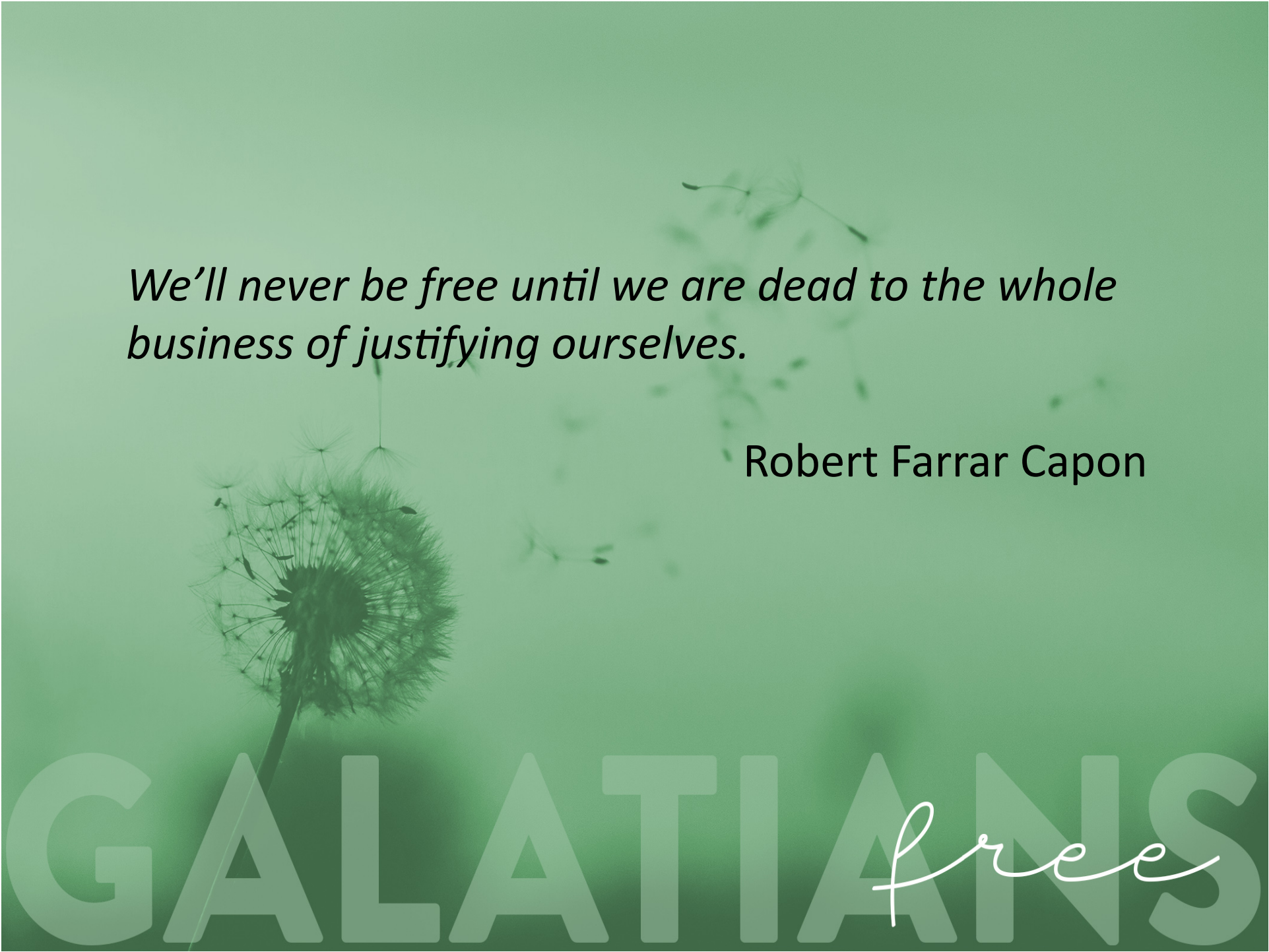
We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

GALATIANS free

At His table—in His ring:

- Invited without qualification
- Admitted at his cost

GALATIANS *free*



*We'll never be free until we are dead to the whole
business of justifying ourselves.*

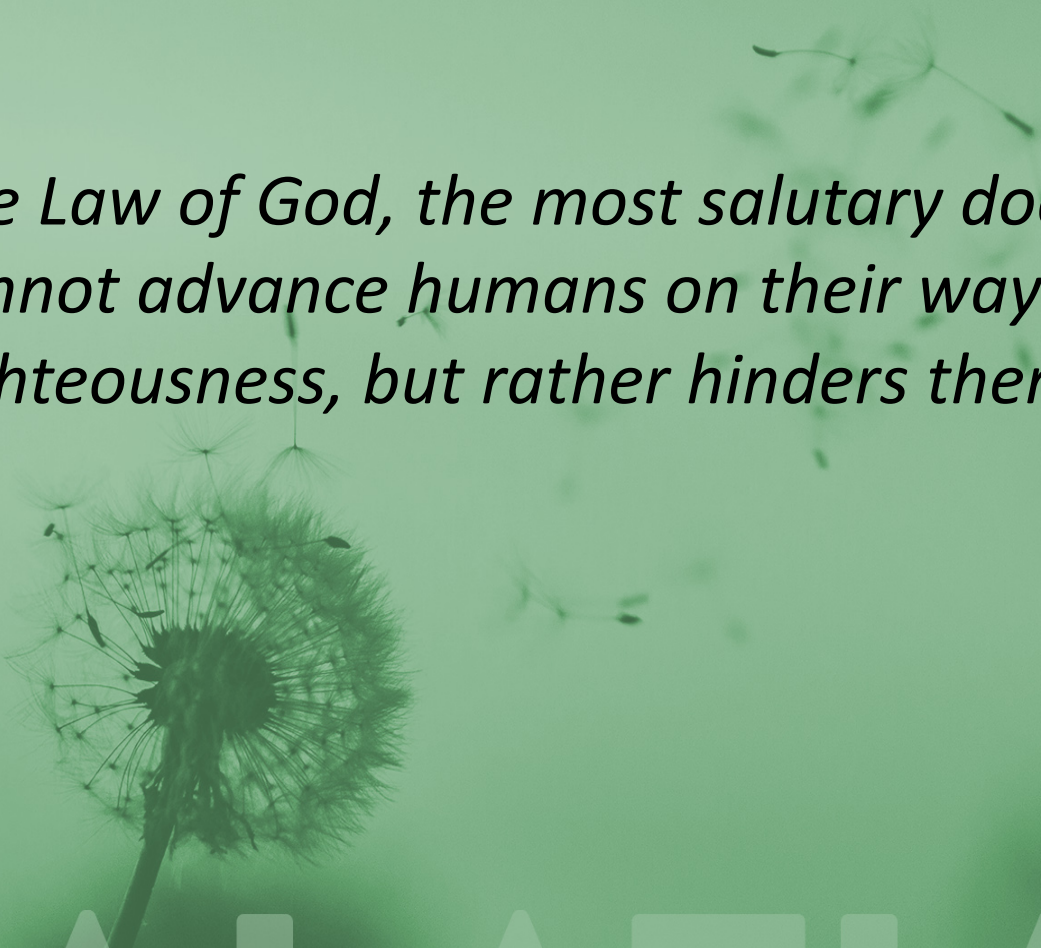
Robert Farrar Capon

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Galatians 2:17-18

But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor.

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*The Law of God, the most salutary doctrine of life,
cannot advance humans on their way to
righteousness, but rather hinders them.*

Martin Luther

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Galatians 2:19-20

For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

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At His table—in His ring:

- Invited without qualification
- Admitted at His cost
- Dressed in His finest

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They talk very sensibly...but it is all about themselves. They are, in fact, most intelligently obsessed with self. It's self—morning, noon, and night. We can't get away from self here. We lug it along with us, even through our dreams. O yes, young sir, we talk sensibly, but we're mad right enough.

From Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*,
cited in Eugene Peterson's *Traveling Light*

GALATIANS *free*



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“The Inner Ring”

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Of all the passions the passion for the Inner Ring is most skillful in making a man who is not yet a very bad man do very bad things. . . .

C.S. Lewis

GALATIANS *free*



C.S. Lewis

As long as you are governed by that desire you will never get what you want. You are trying to peel an onion: if you succeed there will be nothing left. Until you conquer the fear of being an outsider, an outsider you will remain.

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