## **INTRODUCTION** - the text presents **5 more obligatory items** in Christian living.

- 1. (v1) "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted"
  - "restore" to return to former condition or relationship; revive; to heal that which was broken; to reclaim or recoup.

"in a spirit of gentleness" - be kind and considerate in your approach; not harsh.

## 2. THE THREE "BEARS"

- "Bear" signifies support; strengthen the weakness; assist; to shore up.
- 1) (v2) "Bear one another's burdens" we share our mutual woes; things may grow lighter with the touch of a friendly hand or sound of encouraging words.
- 2) (v5) "For each shall bear his own load" ("burden")

  This is the "burden" of individual responsibility.

  Think about judgment day: (Romans 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10 and 8:12)
- 3) (1 Peter 5:6-7) "humble yourselves under the almighty hand of God ... casting all your care ("burden") upon Him, for He cares for you"

  Reference to our sins that only God can "bear" (1 Peter 2:24)

  Reference to taking cares to God in prayer (Philippians 4:6-7)
- 3. (v6) "... share in all good things with him who teaches" pay the preacher!
- 4. (v9) "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."
  - "not grow weary ... not lose heart" to get discouraged; too tired to go on; ready to quit; don't want to anymore; depleted of strength; drained.
  - "while doing good" doing things that help others; things beneficial; deeds that are fitting and appropriate; the proper thing to do.
- 5. (v10) "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."
  - "opportunity" those timely circumstances that are favorable; opportune; we say, "Seize the opportunity;" "A door of opportunity" It comes with a warning: (James 2:1-4)