

GoDeeper



CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR SMALL GROUP, FAMILY, OR IN YOUR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY TIME.

Galatians | Chapter 3 & 4 | Part Three | Pastor Steve Wells | 05.30.2021
Replay message at: <http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages>

In Galatians 3 Paul was frustrated because he had preached this same Gospel to the Churches in Galatia only to have the former religious leaders of the law (aka: the Judiazers) come behind him and add the Jewish laws back into the Gospel -calling Paul's gospel incomplete. The sad part was, the people fell for it; and added their former religious laws/rules back into their practices. This was hard for Paul to wrap his head around thinking "did the law ever give you the power of the Holy Spirit? – Indeed Not! – The law lacked power and the ability to save!" We can hear his frustrations reverberated in Galatians 3.

Read the following verses with some of Pastor Steve's inserted colorful commentary [IN ALL CAPS] to help us understand the nuance of what Paul was communicating.

Galatians 3 New Living Translation

¹Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross.

²Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. ³How foolish can you be? [WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU POSSIBLY DO THAT?]

After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? [BY RETURNING TO THE LAW – WHICH YOU COULD NOT KEEP IN THE FIRST PLACE]

⁴Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it? [HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN EVERYTHING THAT CHRIST HAS DONE IN YOUR LIVES THAT QUICKLY?... DID I WASTE MY TIME COMING TO YOU?]

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS FOR A MOMENT:

WHY DID THEY RETURN TO THE FORMER RELIGIOUS RULES?

- #1 HUMAN'S RULES.
- #2 PRIDE - WE LIKE TO MEASURE OURSELVES AGAINST OTHERS
- #3 RELIGIOUS RULE FOLLOWING IS EASIER THAN SANCTIFICATION.
 - Religious rule following always leaves you feeling empty, frustrated, exhausted and far from God.
 - Sanctification/Transformation always leaves you feeling closer to God. More joy – when God is working on your life. (WHY IS THIS TRUE?)

⁵I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! [YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT] It is because you believed the message you heard about Christ. [BY FAITH YOU WERE SAVED] ⁶In the same way, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." ⁷The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God. ⁸What's more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." ⁹So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith. ¹⁰But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God's Book of the Law." ¹¹So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." ¹²This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, "It is through obeying the law that a person has life." ¹³But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." ¹⁴Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith.

ARE YOU A LITTLE CONFUSED? IF SO – WATCH THIS VIDEO – I THINK IT WILL HELP YOU.

<https://youtu.be/B-533OOpWec>

AFTER VIDEO:

- SO WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?
- DISCUSS then Read Verse 19 - 29

VERSE 19

¹⁹Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. [TO SHOW US THAT WE CAN NOT KEEP THE LAW... TO SHOW US THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BE GOOD ENOUGH ON OUR OWN... TO SHOW US WE NEEDED A SAVIOR...BECAUSE BY OURSELVES – THERE WAS JUST NO WAY.] But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised. God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people.

VERSE 24-29

²⁴Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. ²⁵And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.

²⁶For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

I KNOW THIS WORDING CAN BE A BIT COMPLICATED & DEEP... BUT LET ME TELL YOU
ONCE YOU TAKE THE TIME TO FULLY UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF ALL THAT PAUL IS SAYING IN THIS
CHAPTER YOU WILL BRIM OVER WITH EXCITEMENT IN YOUR HEART!

THIS IS THE BEST NEWS YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE - WITH HUGE ETERNAL IMPLICATIONS!