

# The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians



Sunday, November 26, 2017 Pastor Tom Gang

So far in our study of Galatians 3 Paul has convincingly proven that salvation comes by \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ alone. He began his arguments with a series of hard-hitting questions (verses 1-5), then moved into a \_\_\_\_\_ exposition from the life of Abraham (verses 6-14). As we continue into today's text (vs. 15-29), the apostle again frustrates the false teachers and explains exactly why the law exists—not to vindicate, but to convict, not to wash clean, but to reveal sin's terrible stain. As he finishes out this chapter he demonstrates that God's covenantal \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ is superior to the foolish notion that a man could keep the law and by it, justify himself.

## A PERMANENT PROMISE – GALATIANS 3:15-29

1. The simplifying of a complex passage – Galatians 3:15a
  - a. The Bible study rule of \_\_\_\_\_ – Whatever a difficult or complicated passage means, it will not conflict with other scriptures. The meaning will always be \_\_\_\_\_ rather than more complex.
  - b. How this seemingly difficult passage begins... *“Brethren, I speak after the manner of men...”*
    - In other words, “I am giving you a plain, ordinary, \_\_\_\_\_ illustration”
  
2. The contrast between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ – Galatians 3:15b-29
  - a. The promise \_\_\_\_\_ be changed by the OT law – verses 15-18
    - Human contracts are \_\_\_\_\_. When a covenant/promise is confirmed, no man can simply cancel it (disannul) or add details to its content (How much more binding is God's covenant?)
    - The promises made to Abraham and his seed were both physical and spiritual...
    - The “seed” is Isaac, who is a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ – Genesis 22:1-14
    - The \_\_\_\_\_ promise, in regard to Isaac, had a future reference to Jesus Christ
    - The \_\_\_\_\_ covenant of earthly inheritance was given 430 years *before* the giving of the OT law, therefore, the law \_\_\_\_\_ disannul that promise
    - The coming of the OT law \_\_\_\_\_ add or subtract from either promise

*Important note: Before and after the law, \_\_\_\_\_ is the controlling influence*

- b. The promise is \_\_\_\_\_ to the OT law – verses 19-20
- The promise is *first*; the OT law was added *afterward*
  - The usefulness of the OT law \_\_\_\_\_ when Jesus Christ came into the world
  - The OT law was ordained (proclaimed/dispensed) by \_\_\_\_\_ – Ex. 14:19; 23:20; 32:34; Acts 7:30, 35, 53; Heb. 2:2
  - A mediator or middleman is used between a party of two. There was \_\_\_\_ mediator between God and Abraham, as the two made a covenant without a third party being involved
- c. The promise does \_\_\_\_\_ contradict the OT law – verses 21-26
- d. The promise does much more than the OT law – verses 27-29

3. The doctrinal conclusion

- The OT law cannot improve or nullify the \_\_\_\_\_. We are the spiritual seed of Abraham and made sons of God by \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus alone.