

Faith or Law

Galatians 3:1-14

Faith Finds Fulfillment But Living The Law Leaves You Lost

A. Five Rhetorical Questions (3:1-5)

1. Who hath bewitched you? (3:1)

a. Bewitch = amaze

Acts 8:9

b. The results of being bewitched

1). Disobey the truth

2). Disbelieve with your own eyes

3). Deny the sacrifice of Christ

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A. Five Rhetorical Questions (3:1-5) - continued

**2. Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by
the hearing of faith? (3:2)**

a. How soon we can forget

James 2:10

b. Faith is essential

Hebrews 11:6

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A. Five Rhetorical Questions (3:1-5) - continued

**3. Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect
by the flesh? (3:3)**

a. How does spiritual growth occur?

b. If works failed before, they will not work now

Romans 4:6-7

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A. Five Rhetorical Questions (3:1-5) - continued

**4. Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet
in vain? (3:4)**

**a. Why did you respond as you did when I preached
the Gospel?**

b. Did you not experience the joy of salvation?

**c. If you have the best, why look for anything else
2 Corinthians 6:1**

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A. Five Rhetorical Questions (3:1-5) - continued

5. What about miracles? (3:5)

a. Who does them?

b. Why do they occur?

John 14:12

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B. The Example Of Abraham (3:6-9)

Genesis 12:3, Genesis 15:6, Genesis 17: 24

**1. The Judaizers claim the old testament were on their
side**

John 8:33-34

2. Paul links the past to the present

Hebrews 11:39-40

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C. The Redemption From The Curse (3:10-14)

- 1. All who rely on the law are cursed (3:10-12)**
- 2. Christ took the curse (3:13-14)**

What Is Your Faith Based On?

The Law And The Promise

Galatians 3:15-25

The law keeps you from experiencing grace.

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

A. It Was Confirmed (3:15)

Galatians 3:15

Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's **covenant**, yet if it be **confirmed**, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.

1. A confirmed covenant cannot be changed
2. If man does not change a covenant, then God certainly would not

Genesis 15:5

And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

B. It was established on Christ (3:16)

Galatians 3:16

**Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made.
He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And
to thy **seed**, which is Christ.**

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

B. It was established on Christ (3:16) - continued

1. The promise is based on the Messiah, not the law

Romans 15:8

Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

2. Christ is the only heir of the promise

Hebrews 1:2

Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

B. It was established on Christ (3:16) - continued

3. The only way that we can participate in these blessings is to be a joint-heir with Christ

Romans 8:17

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

4. Salvation was and is through Christ alone

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

C. It Was Before The Law (3:17)

Galatians 3:17

And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

1. In time

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

C. It Was Before The Law (3:17) - continued

2. In result

Romans 4:1-3

1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?

2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

I. The Superiority Of The Promise (3:15-18)

D. It established our inheritance (3:18)

Galatians 3:18

For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

- 1. Our spiritual inheritance is not based on our performance**
- 2. Our spiritual inheritance is based on God's promise**
- 3. And God is well able to keep His promise.**

Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

A. Its purpose made the law inferior (3:19a)

Galatians 3:19a

Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of **transgressions**

1. Answers the question “Why do we have the law?”

2. Demonstrates

a. Man is unable to please God by his own works

b. Man is utterly sinful and in need of God’s mercy

c. Man’s guilt

d. Man’s imperfection

We can never make it on our own

We need Jesus more than anything

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

B. Its limitations made the law inferior (3:19b)

Galatians 3:19b

till the seed should come to whom the promise was made;

1. The law was temporary

2. God's promise to Abraham is eternal

**3. We are under the law of the Spirit of life in Christ
Jesus**

Romans 8:2

**For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made
me free from the law of sin and death.**

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

C. Its mediators made the law inferior (3:19c-20)

Galatians 3:19c-20

19c and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

20 Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

C. Its mediators made the law inferior (3:19c-20)

1. Moses delivered the message of God's law to Israel

2. God dealt directly with Abraham

John 1:17

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

3. The promise required a payment that only Jesus could make

4. The law was based on man, but the promise is based on God

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

D. Its deadness made the law inferior (3:21-22)

Galatians 3:21-22

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

D. Its deadness made the law inferior (3:21-22)

- 1. The law cannot impart life**
- 2. The law exposes sin**
- 3. The law inflicts the price of sin**
- 4. The law imprisons the sinner**

II. The Inferiority Of The Law (3:19-25)

E. Its function made the law inferior (3:23-25)

Galatians 3:23-25

23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

- 1. Keeping the law keeps you from faith**
- 2. The teaching of the law should take us to Christ**
- 3. Faith in Christ fulfills the purpose of the law**

Experience The Promises