

The Book of Galatians – Salvation for all! - Part 2

Hope Community Christian Church – November 22, 2015

www.hopecommunitysite.com

Galatians 3 New International Version

Faith or Works of the Law

3 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. 2 I would like to learn just one thing from you: ***Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard?*** 3 Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?[a] 4 Have you experienced[b] so much in vain—if it really was in vain? 5 ***So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?*** 6 So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”[c] 7 Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. 8 Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ***“All nations will be blessed through you.”***[d] 9 ***So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.*** 10 For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.”[e] 11 Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.”[f] 12 The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, “The person who does these things will live by them.”[g] 13 ***Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.”***[h] 14 ***He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.***

The Law and the Promise

15 Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. 16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,”[i] meaning one person, who is Christ. 17 What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, ***does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise.*** 18 For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise. 19 ***Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come.*** The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. 20 A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one. 21 Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. 22 ***But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.***

Children of God

23 Before the coming of this faith,[j] we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. 24 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. 26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, 27 ***for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*** 28 ***There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*** 29 ***If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.***

Footnotes:

- Galatians 3:3 In contexts like this, the Greek word for flesh (*sarx*) refers to the sinful state of human beings, often presented as a power in opposition to the Spirit.
- Galatians 3:4 Or suffered - Galatians 3:6 Gen. 15:6
- Galatians 3:8 Gen. 12:3; 18:18; 22:18 - Galatians 3:10 Deut. 27:26
- Galatians 3:11 Hab. 2:4 - Galatians 3:12 Lev. 18:5
- Galatians 3:13 Deut. 21:23 - Galatians 3:16 Gen. 12:7; 13:15; 24:7
- Galatians 3:23 Or through the faithfulness of Jesus ... 23 Before faith came

The Power of Belief... 3:1-14

- Words are important - Belief/Faith is MORE important...
 - We must watch what we confess because it often reflects wrong or poor belief
 - We must not create false curses or resurrect the law by being paranoid about our words.
- Accessing our salvation has never come from performance in obeying the law vs. 2

- Growing in our spiritual gifts has never been tied to our godliness (although many gifts are given as a blessing /reward for godliness, but their use is not contingent on our morality) vs. 5
 - You'll never be spiritual enough if you base your ability to live a godly life on some kind of performance system. God calls you, He qualifies you and He asks you to grow in faith and in the power of His grace.
 - Christ become the curse for us so that we can be saved from the condemnation of the law and the guilt associated with it!

The Power of God's Promise 3:15-22...

- As believers in Jesus Christ, we are heirs of the same promise of life that Abraham was. We are part of the Abraham's covenant!
- The law was given to help society relate to each other and relate to God in a corrupt and Sinful world, filled with people who's flesh (sarx in Greek) had an addiction to sin. Jesus Christ didn't do away with the law, He fulfilled it. This allows each of us to meet its righteous requirements, and not be condemned by its penalties.
- We receive the promise of forgiveness of sin and life everlasting by faith in His promises and by belief in what He is doing for us now (interceding on our behalf in His throne room).

The Power of Being a Child of God 3:23-29

- Now that we are in Jesus Christ, we are not under the protection or the condemnation of the law. We are simply in Christ!
- Now we live as free children of God, instead of slaves to a code of righteousness.
- We are clothed in Christ and we are heirs of the promises made to Abraham :)

Philippians 3:4b-11 NIV

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. 7 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, ***not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in[a] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.*** 10 I want to know Christ—to yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Announcements: www.hopecommunitysite.com 705-812-2833

Morning Prayer Monday to Friday 9 to 10 am at the church

Woman's Walking/Exercise Group – Tuesday's 7:00 pm at the church

Mom's Hangout – Wednesdays 10-11:30 am... A time for Moms and kid's to hang out and get to know each other.

Upward Basketball: Grades SK to 6 Wednesday nights & Saturday mornings contact Barry Elliott at 705-955-4893.

God Squad Jr. High: Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Students grades 6-8 are invited to this great program.

Sr. High Youth: Thursdays: 7:30 to 8:45 pm. Students grades 9-12

Good Food Box – Orders on the first Monday of each month from 3-6 pm and pick up on the third Wednesday of each month from 3-6 pm. Fresh Fruit and Vegetables... Small box \$10, Large box \$15

Communion Lunch Service – First Sunday Service (10:00 am) of each month as part of the morning service. Invite a friend and bring food to share in this pot luck style meal.

Christmas Eve Service – Thursday, December 24th 5:00 pm... A one hour beautiful candle light service reflecting on the greatness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Hot apple cider will be served. A great night to invite friends and family so that they can experience the truth of Christ in the Christmas season.