

Justification and living by faith- Explained

Galatians 3:6-22

In chapter 3 Paul forms three interlocking arguments to prove to the Galatians that the Law is incapable of justifying a sinner before a righteous God. In vv1-5 he argues from their universal spiritual experience. In v6-9 he argues from Abraham's justification by faith alone. In the remainder of the chapter he's going to argue from the Law itself, that the Law was never intended and was incompetent to do what the Judaizers claimed... bring about or complete spiritual life... justification.

V6-9, **The argument from Abraham's justification by faith alone.** The Judaizers polishing the Mosaic Law, frequently appeal to Moses. Paul took them back further in their history to Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation. *He cited Genesis 15:6 to prove that God justified Abraham by faith, not because he kept the Law. Abraham "believed" the promise that God would bless him, and God declared him righteous!*

V10-4:1, **The argument from the Law: It can't do what Christ can, by faith.**

- 10-14, The steely jaws of the Law. The upper jaw is v10, the lower is v13b. And Christ snatches the believer from those jaws by faith in God's promise.
- V15-18. The Judaizers apparently taught that the Mosaic covenant somehow modified the prior Abrahamic covenant which was an unconditional, gracious covenant. They treated it like epoxy: You add part B to part A to get the glue that sticks things together. You've gotta obey the Law to get the spiritual blessings of Abraham. Paul says, "NO!" The conditional covenant with Israel does not modify nor mix in with the promises to Abraham to as to change the character of God's grace.
- V19a, **Why then, did God give the Law of Moses?!** It was *added* because of transgression. **First**, "to restrain transgressions." All law has a restraining effect. **Second**, "to reveal transgressions." see (cf. Rom. 3:20; 4:15; 5:13). "*The law was given therefore to set the stamp of positive transgression upon already existing sin. It was not to give the knowledge of sin as sin, but to show that it was a violation of God's commandments.*" Kenneth Wuest. **Third**, "to provoke transgressions." A "Do not touch! Wet paint!" sign on a bench tempts people to touch the bench to see if the paint really is wet. **All of these things find their resolution in the person and finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- V19b-22, Angels **mediated** the Mosaic covenant. (cf. Deut. 33:2; Acts 7:53; Heb. 2:2) This shows the inferiority of that covenant. It functioned until the seed (Christ) would come! Christ for us is direct contact, full benefit, not mediated. Face to face is better than relayed messages!



Grace Bible Fellowship

"We are identified with Jesus Christ in his crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and heavenly seating"



- Teaching -

Eric Peterman

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Galatians Part 6

Galatians 3:6-22

- September 1st, 2019 -

- Order of Service -

Welcoming Prayer

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:6-14

- *237, This is my Father's World*
- *386, Be Thou my Vision*
- *279, Grace, Greater than our Sin*
- *Speak, O Lord*

Congregational Reading

Announcements and Prayer requests

Bible Quiz

Greeting

Message in the Word -

Galatians 3:6-22

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Sending prayer

Even so, Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.

Prayer Requests, Praises - Hebrews 4:16

- Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
- Pray for Dave and Renee, in Uganda for 3 months
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To contact Eric, call or text 489-6131 or
Eric@GraceBibleRedwoodValley.org

News/Calendar

→ Wednesday: 6:30PM Bible Study

→ Today Sunday, Communion and Pot-Luck

→ -

→ Monday, Read Psalm 85

You may notice we don't pass an offering plate

The Lord loves a cheerful giver. God's grace and provision motivate His people to give generously to His work and needs of His Body, as He enables, not under obligation or social pressure.

We invite you to participate in the ministry, and the offering box in the foyer is for your gifts and offerings for the Lord's work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, Galatians 6:6 -

If you wish a tax receipt at year end, see Tim Bradford to obtain the proper donation envelopes for tracking

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