

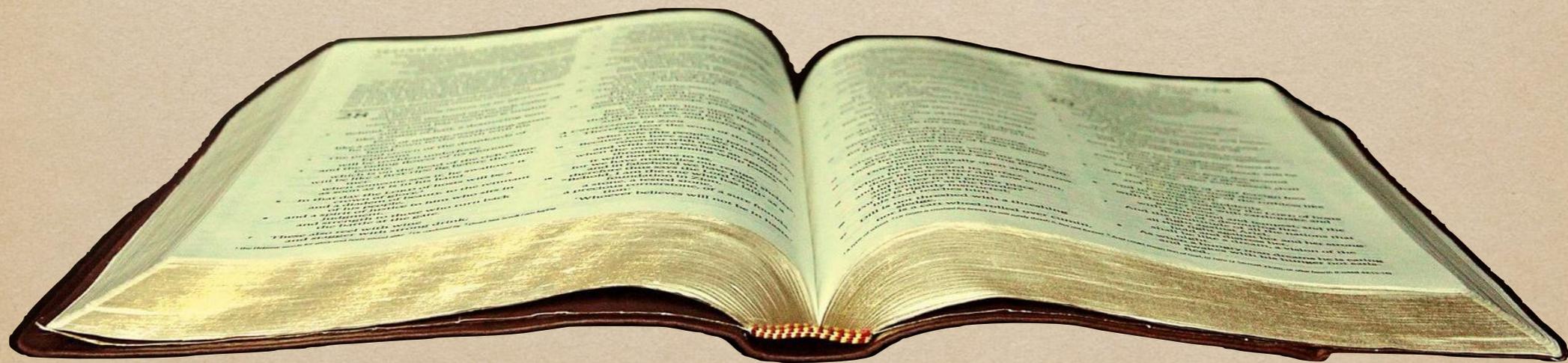


Galatians

From Law to Grace

Part 2

Gal 3:25-29





-Remember our original outline for the book of Galatians?

I. Paul's Defense of His Apostleship Chapters 1&2

II. Paul Defends Justification by Faith Alone Chapters 3&4

III. Paul's Call to Liberty Chapters 5&6

-We are in part **II**; the doctrinal section of Galatians. Chapters 3&4

-We started off with a personal appeal to the Galatian believers. (3:1-5)

3:2 did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

-Paul then went to the history of the Abraham and Israel in the Old Testament to support justification by faith apart from the law.

-Let's review what we've studied up till now.

-Paul uses the example of Abraham to show that God's blessing comes by faith, not by the works of the law. (3:6-9)

-This starts us on a journey that will take us all the way to the end of chapter 3.

-This will be like a road trip traveling through time and the chapter.



1. The promise to Abraham vs 6-9

- Abraham believed God; it was counted to him as righteousness. vs 6
- Those of faith are children of Abraham. vs 7
- All the nations will be blessed through the promise to Abraham. vs 8
- All who are of faith share Abraham's blessing vs 9

2. The Law's Limitation vs 10-14

- The law brings a curse, as it is impossible to keep. vs 10-12
- Christ redeemed us from the law becoming a curse for us. vs 13,14

3. Comparison to a Human Covenant vs 15-18

- A promise, or legal covenant made by man can not be annulled or changed once ratified. vs 15.
- Therefore, God's promise to Abraham, and his seed, Christ, is binding. vs 16
- The Mosaic Law 430 years later could not invalidate that. vs 17
- If that promise is based on the law, it is no longer a promise. vs 18

-Why then the Law-



4. The Purpose of the Law vs 19-22

- It was added because of transgressions until the coming of the promised Seed (Christ). vs 19
- The law was mediated by angels and Moses, whereas the promise came directly from God. vs 19,20
- The law is not contrary to God's promise; rather it exposes sin and imprisons all under sin. vs 22a
- This ensures that the promise would come only through faith in Jesus Christ to those who believe. vs 22b

5. The Law was a Temporary Guardian vs 23,24

- Before faith we were kept under the law, imprisoned and watched over. vs 23
- The law acted as a pedagogue to lead us to Christ. vs 24

Therefore, the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.

-Here's another way to look at it:

From Abraham in 2100 B.C. – To Today, Having Clothed Yourself With Christ 3:6-29



Roger's Roadster
The Abrahamic Covenant
The blessing to all nations
3:6-9



Wolford's Wheels
Redemption through Christ
3:13-14



Wayne's Wagon
The Inferior Law
3:10-12



Wayne's Wreck
The Tutor is no longer needed
3:19-25



Sorry Wayne
The Curse of the Law
3:10-12



Courtney's Cruiser
The Coming of Faith
Abraham's Seed (Christ)
3:15-18



Eckel's Express
Adult Sonship 'In Christ'
3:26-29

Road Trip Chapter 3

-So, our road trip in Galatians 3 started with Abraham in 2100 B.C:



“All the nations will be blessed in you” 3:8

-And we arrived today, complete in Christ. Just like Eckel’s fancy red car.

27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.

Galatians 3:25-29

25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.

-Which takes us back to Roger’s Roadster.

-You can forget about Wayne’s Wagon.



-We're going to divide this passage up into 5 sections:

- A. Our Pedagogue vs 25
- B. Our Sonship In Christ vs 26
- C. Our Baptism In Christ vs 27
- D. Our Unity In Christ vs 28
- E. Our Inheritance In Christ vs 29

A. Our Pedagogue

But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. vs 25

-What exactly is meant by "now that faith has come"?

-We need to go back to verse 23:

-Paul is saying before faith in Christ was realized, the Jews were protected by the law until the coming of faith.

But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed.

-But what does he mean, "before faith came"?



- Does that mean no one in the Old Testament had faith?
- No, anyone from Adam on can exercise faith, and does exercise faith whenever they learn anything and believe it to be true. That's faith.
- Paul uses the word 'faith' here describing what was said in verse 22, "the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe".
- "Now that faith has come" is in reference to the coming Seed of Abraham, Christ's redeeming work on the cross.
- Now that Christ has come, there is no longer a need for a pedagogue.
- Notice the word "we" in verse 23 and 25.
- Paul is referring to Jews here. He just told them that the pedagogue was a temporary function.
- Now that Christ has come even unbelieving Jews are no longer under the law.
- The Judaizers in Galatia, who insisted on following the law, even they were no longer under the law.
- Once the promise of Abraham was fulfilled the law is done away with for everyone, both Jew and Gentile.



- Once Christ came, He fulfilled the law. He established the promise, and the pedagogue was no longer needed.
- That promise being, that the **“blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles”** (3:14)
- The “we” in verses 23 and 25 will change to “you” in verses 26 through 29.
- There is a shift in verses 26 through 29 and Paul will now speak of the Jew and Gentile as one.
- This shift is very important in the development of Paul’s message in Chapters three and four.

B. Our Sonship In Christ

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. vs 26

- There are a few different words in the Greek for child or son.
 - (teknon - τέκνον) Which could mean child, son, or offspring. It could refer to male or female of any age.
 - (huios" - υἱός) **It means an adult son.** This is the word used when describing Christ as the 'Son of God'.
- huios is the word used here in verse 26. Paul is making an important point comparing a child to an adult in the Roman family.



-In the Roman family the child is under the supervision of the pedagogue until his father deemed him mature. Usually, around the age of 14.

-He is then adopted into the family as an adult son. He has become a 'huios'. This ceremony was called the Toga Virilis.

-He is then given all the rights, privileges, and inheritance of the father.

-The pedagogue, that is the law, has no part in our life as a believer.

-As 'sons of God' we now have all the blessings, privileges and inheritance that Christ has.

-The idea of adoption is also seen here although the word is not mentioned until chapter four verse five.

-adoption comes from the same root word as sons:

-(υιοθεσίαν - huiiothesian)

(υιός - huios) son.

(θέσις - thesis) a placing, setting, position

-In the Roman family, anyone adopted outside the family could become sons with all the rights, privileges, and inheritance of the family.



-This is what happened to Judah Ben-Hur in the movie starring Charlton Heston. Originally a fictitious novel called 'Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ' written in 1880.

Quintus Arrius - a Roman naval commander who, after being saved by Judah, adopts him as his son, giving Judah all the status, power, and authority that the commander had.

-Further illustrating the fact that the Gentiles have now been brought into God's family with all the privileges that goes with it.

-The concept of Sonship and Adoption is further developed as identification with Christ by spiritual baptism.

C. Our Baptism In Christ

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. vs 27

-This is the foundation of the spiritual life of the believer.

-This is known as Positional Truth.

2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

-By being baptized into Christ, we are identified with his death, burial, and resurrection. This took place at the point of Salvation.



-This is briefly mentioned in Galatians, but fully developed in Romans:

Romans 6:3-7 ³ Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

⁴ Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection,

⁶ knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; ⁷ for he who has died is freed from sin.



D. Our Unity In Christ

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. vs 28

- When Paul writes this, he is not erasing these differences. They are a fact of life, even today.
- People would like to see them eliminated - especially the difference between men and women.
- We have been “**clothed with Christ**” and as such, earthly distinctions vanish (Jew/Greek, slave/free, male/female).
- Our life ‘In Christ’ is now described from a heavenly point of view.
- The earthly differences among people have nothing to do with our life ‘In Christ’

Colossians 3:2,3 ² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. ³ For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

- These distinctions were very important in Paul’s day.
- To understand this, we need to go back to that dreaded concept of:





-In Paul's day the Mishnah required all Jewish men and women to start their day with morning prayers known as the '**Birkot Hashachar**'.

-This was a series of 15 different blessings, one of which men recited:

-“Blessed are you, King of the universe, who has not made me a Gentile, who has not made me a slave, and who has not made me a woman.”

-All three of these (Gentiles, slaves, and women) were looked upon by Jewish men as lower-class individuals.

-Women would pray the same prayer, except the last line would be, “Thank You that you have made me according to Your will”.

-This prayer has been modernized today in a more positive light; “Thank You that You made me a Jew, thank You that You have made me free, and thank You that You have made me a man”.

-When Paul wrote verse 28, he had reference to this Jewish culture.

-Every Jewish man thought he was better than a Gentile, better than a slave, and better than a woman.

-Paul comes along and says; “Not in the family of God, **‘for you are all one in Christ Jesus’**”.



-This is also brought out in Colossians chapter three:

¹¹ . . .there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian (*lowest of low*), slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

E. Our Inheritance In Christ

And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise. vs 29

-This takes us all the way back to verse eight:

⁸ The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, *saying*, "All the nations will be blessed in you." ⁹ So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.

-The covenant that God made with Abraham contained three promises:

1. Land (the Promised Land)
2. Nation (a Great People) which included an eternal king (Seed)
3. Blessing (to Abraham and through him to all nations)



-With the coming of Christ (The Seed) and His work at Calvary we now have that blessing:

3:14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

-As adult sons 'In Christ' we have an inheritance today which will last into eternity.

-In the next two weeks this will be developed more by Miles in chapter four.

-An excellent way to sum up our passage today can be seen in this handout by Hal Molloy back in 1987:

-This includes many of the great things we have 'In Christ' today.



GAL 3:26-29 7 PRESENT REALITIES IN A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE - RESULTING FROM GRACE & NOT LAW

1. EVERY BELIEVER IS A SON OF GOD (3:26)
 - REASON: BECAUSE OF FAITH IN CHRIST
 2. EVERY BELIEVER WAS BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST (PLACED IN A LIVING UNION OR IDENTIFIED WITH CHRIST) (3:27)
 3. EVERY BELIEVER CAN PUT ON (CLOTHE THEMSELVES) WITH CHRIST = WRAPPED UP IN INTIMACY (3:27)
 4. EVERY BELIEVER HAS AN IDENTICAL STANDING (POSITION) BEFORE THE FATHER (3:28)
 - NO NATIONAL DISTINCTIONS EXIST (I.E. JEW OR GENTILE)
 - " SOCIAL " " (I.E. BOND OR FREE)
 - " SEXUAL " " (I.E. MALE OR FEMALE)
-
- THE REASON: BECAUSE OF ALL BELIEVERS ONENESS (UNITY) IN CHRIST
5. EVERY BELIEVER IS CHRIST'S CHERISHED POSSESSION (3:29)
 6. EVERY BELIEVER IS A SPIRITUAL SEED OF ABRAHAM (3:29)
 7. EVERY BELIEVER IS A HEIR OF GOD & JOINT HEIR WITH CHRIST (3:29)

18 MAY 97
HAL MOLEY

Gal 3:26-29

7 present realities in a Christian's life -
Resulting from Grace & not Law



1. Every believer is a son of God
*Reason: Because of faith in Christ (3:26)
2. Every believer was baptized into Christ (placed in
A living union or identified with Christ) (3:27)
3. Every believer can put on (clothe themselves)
with Christ = wrapped up in intimacy (3:27)
4. Every believer has an identical standing (position)
before the father (3:28)
 - * No national distinctions exist (i.e. Jew or Gentile)
 - * “ social “ “ (i.e. bond or free)
 - * “ sexual “ “ (i.e. male or female)
- *The reason: because of all believers' oneness (unity)
In Christ
5. Every believer is Christ's cherished possession (3:29)
6. Every believer is a spiritual seed of Abraham (3:29)
7. Every believer is an heir of God & joint heir (3:29)

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Hal Molloy

All Scripture is NASB 95 unless otherwise indicated

HHBC Bob Wolford Oct 05, 2025



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