

Outline*



Law Keeping Never Justifies 3:1-14

1. It Is Not the Way the Galatians Were Justified 3:1-5

- a. A Condition Described 3:1
- b. A Question Asked 3:2
- c. An Inconsistency Shown 3:3
- d. Consequences of Faith in Christ 3:4
- e. Conclusion and Repeat of Contrast 3:5

2. It Is Not the Way Abraham Was Justified 3:6-9

- a. Abraham's Salvation Obtained 3:6
- b. Abraham's Salvation Applied 3:7-9
 - The Conclusion 3:7
 - The Prophecy 3:8
 - The Blessing 3:9

* adapted from McCalley



Paul is addressing the following issues in Gal 3:1- 5

- is salvation by faith or by works
- once saved do I live by faith or by works
- the Holy Spirit's ministry to believers
- example of “Abraham the believer”



¹ You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed *as crucified*?

² This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

⁴ Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

⁵ So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Review from last week (1)



¹ You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?

expansion of Chp1 message:

Gal 1:6 I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;

- **foolish** - lit: not using your head
- **bewitched** - being misled by deception
- How did the Galatian believers see Christ portrayed as crucified?

Review from last week (2)



² This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

(how) **did you receive the Spirit?**

- this was the undeniable proof of salvation in the early church – see Acts 2:4, 10:44-46
- but the Galatians were being misled into believing that the “works of law” were responsible for receiving the Spirit (no definite article before law)
- Paul’s question - works of law* or hearing with faith

* works of rule keeping

Review from last week (3)



³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

called “so foolish” this time!

(Mark 7:8 Are you so lacking in understanding also?)

having begun by the Spirit

you began your Christian life by dependence upon the Holy Spirit to guide you into all the truth (John 16:13)

now being perfected by the flesh

are being brought to spiritual maturity by the flesh
(works of the law, of rule keeping, ---)

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?



You suffered many things due to your profession of faith (in the gospel that I preached): Were these sufferings to no purpose?

Merryman

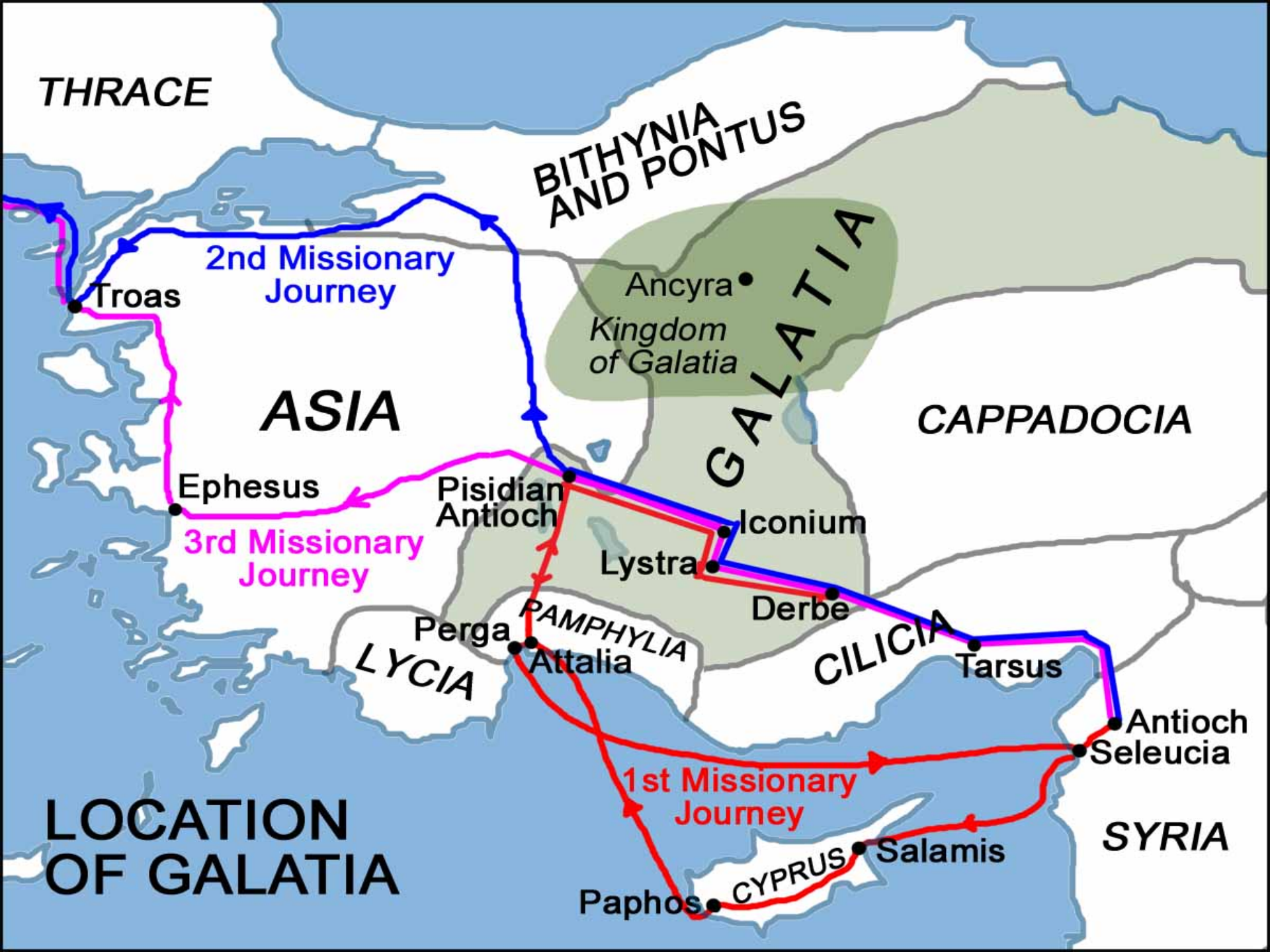
Why does Paul address the believer's suffering in the midst of this teaching of faith vs. works?

Let's look at the verse:

You (Galatians) suffer so many things – past point fact

Do we see this in Scripture? – see Acts 13:44-52

(background – Paul's custom: 1st synagogue, 2nd Gentiles; 1st Sabbath resulted in many Jews believing & wanting to hear more on the next Sabbath)



THRACE

BITHYNIA
AND PONTUS

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

ASIA

2nd Missionary
Journey

3rd Missionary
Journey

Ancyra
Kingdom
of Galatia

Pisidian
Antioch

Lystra

Iconium

Derbe

LYCIA

Perga

Attalia

CILICIA

Tarsus

Antioch
Seleucia

1st Missionary
Journey

LOCATION
OF GALATIA

SYRIA

CYPRUS

Salamis

Paphos

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?



44 And on the next sabbath almost the entire city was gathered together to hear the word of God.

45 Then the Jews, having seen the crowds, became filled with jealousy and went to speaking against the things which were being spoken by Paul, saying slanderous and evil things.

46 And having become bold, Paul and Barnabas said, To you it was required in the nature of the case for the word of God to be spoken first. Since now you are thrusting it away from yourselves and are judging yourselves not worthy of life eternal, behold, we are turning ourselves to the Gentiles,

50 But the Jews urged on the devout women, those of high position and the leading men of the city, and raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and threw them out of their boundaries.

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed
it w

The Jews and God-fearing proselytes also
suffered as a result of Paul's and Barnabas's
persecution.

Acts 14:

²¹ After they had preached the gospel to that city
(Derby) and had made many disciples, they
returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,
²² strengthening the souls of the disciples,
encouraging them to continue in the faith, and
saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter
the kingdom of God."



4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?



Scripture teaches that all believers will suffer:

Romans 8:16-17

¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ --- heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, **if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*.**

Philippians 1:29

²⁹ For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

1 Peter 4:19

¹⁹ Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed
it



But the believer's suffering is not in vain

Scripture says suffering has a purpose!

1 Thess 3:3 so that no one would
be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves
know that **we have been destined (appointed) for this.**

1 Peter 4:16 but if *anyone suffers* as a Christian,
he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify
God in this name.

5 So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?



Therefore, the One who is constantly supplying the Spirit to you in bountiful measure, and constantly working miracles among you, (Wuest)

Therefore – Paul will now draw a conclusion

Who is “the One”

This One is doing two things among you:

- Supplying the Spirit to you
- Working miracles among you

5 So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?



supplying the Spirit to you – present tense continuous action

supplying – to supply fully, abundantly; the present continuous tense speaks of the work of the Holy Spirit in all His ministrations to believers individually and collectively

Vine

The reason for this is that we have responded by faith to God's grace

To understand the abundance of this grace we need to review the ministries of the Holy Spirit

Some Of The Various Aspects Of



2. The Spirit dwells in believers

John 14:16 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, --- *but* you know Him because **He abides with you and will be in you.**

6. The Spirit transforms believers

2 Cor 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.



Some Of The Various Aspects Of The Ministry Of The Holy Spirit In The Believers Life*

13. The Spirit frees believers

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus **has set you free** from the law of sin and of death.

15. The Spirit intercedes in prayer for the believer

Rom 8:26 --- the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the **Spirit Himself intercedes** for *us* with groanings too deep for words; ²⁷ ---**He intercedes** for the saints according to *the will of God*.



Some Of The Various Aspects Of The Ministry Of The Holy Spirit In The Believers' Life*

1. The Spirit dwells in believers.
2. The Spirit gives believers access to the Father.
3. The Spirit has fellowship with believers.
4. The Spirit teaches believers.
5. The Spirit reveals the glory of Christ to believers.
6. The Spirit transforms believers.
7. The Spirit manifests his fruit through believers.
8. The Spirit gifts every believer for ministry.
9. The Spirit empowers believers.
10. The Spirit fills believers.
11. The Spirit desires against believers' sin nature or flesh.



Some Of The Various Aspects Of The Ministry Of The Holy Spirit In The Believers' Life*

12. The Spirit controls the mind of the new man.
13. The Spirit frees believers.
14. The Spirit guides believers.
15. The Spirit intercedes in prayer for the believer.
16. The Spirit is God's guarantee of his promises to the believer.
17. The Spirit is the agent in the believer's sanctification.
18. The Spirit assures believers.
19. The Spirit glorifies Christ through believers.
20. The Spirit can be grieved & quenched by the believer.
21. The Spirit is the means by which a believer walks.
22. The Spirit perfects the believer.

⁵ So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?



Working miracles among you - present tense continuous action

miracles – works of power (dunamis) – see Rom 1:16

among you – among the body of Christ

He continues to do miracles in and through believers even today, not the least of which is the miracle of regeneration.

Constable

do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Col 2:6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.