

Galatians 3:10-19 The Curse of the Law

1. Children of Abraham

- a. It wasn't written for his sake alone... (Rom 4:24-25, Rom 5:1, 5:17-18)
- b. Recall that the Galatians now have been led astray to believe that the law will perfect them.
- c. They received the Spirit and justification by *faith* in the gospel. They need to walk this way.
 - i. Jewish influence likely pointed them back to Abraham. Abraham is a father of Israel.
 - ii. Abraham is not only the father of Israel, but all who are "of faith".
 - iii. To claim Abraham as your father today, it can only be by faith.
- d. Those of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. (Israel, the law, and covenants are not needed.)
 - i. The blessing = Justification through faith. (Gal 3:8)
 - ii. The blessing = Righteousness given without the law. (Gal 2:21)

2. The curse of the law • Galatians 3:10-13

- a. If you are under the works of the law, you are under a curse. (Deu 27:26)
 - i. Cursed because the whole law is required. (James 2:10-11)
 - ii. No one can achieve the requirement of the law. Law ≠ justification. (Rom 3:19-20)
 - iii. What's needed is the faith of Christ. (Phil 3:8-9)
- b. You break one, you've broken all. The law only condemns. Life? Not by the law. (Gal 3:12, 21)
- c. It is evident. What does scripture see? "The just shall live by faith." (Hab 2:4, Rom 3:21-22)
- d. Blessed is he to whom the Lord will not impute sin. Scripture witnesses this. (Rom 4:5-10)
- e. This is why a better covenant was needed for Israel. A way to keep the law. (Jer 31:31-34)
- f. But God can impute righteousness by grace, providing escape from the law. (Rom 6:14)
- g. What can redeem us from this horrible curse? Jesus Christ and Him crucified.
(Deu 21:22-23, Col 2:13-16, Eph 2:14-15)
 - i. Redemption from sin, redemption from the law. Forgiveness. (Rom 6:14, 17-18, Col 1:14)
- h. Christ died to make atonement/reconcile us with God, so that... we might receive the Spirit by faith. (Rom 3:22-24)
- i. We are ministers of this reconciliation and forgiveness by the blood. (2 Cor 5:18-19, Eph 4:32)

3. You don't want a covenant • Galatians 3:14-18

- a. You receive the Spirit through faith. This is the answer to the question. (Gal 3:2)
- b. Covenants? An agreement, not changing. Israel broke theirs.
- c. By God's wisdom the promises of land, seed, and blessing were not wrapped in a covenant.
- d. The law was given 430 years after promises. The law cannot annul what was promised.
- e. Lesson: It is far better to receive God's grace and stand in liberty - set free from sin. (Gal 5:1)
- f. The promise is certain when it's up to God alone to fulfill.