

Galatians 3:20-29 **The Law of Sin and Death**

1. Wherefore then serveth the law?

- a. We do not receive the Spirit by the works of the law, but by faith in Christ's work. (Gal 3:2, 5)
- b. We are not made perfect by the works of the law, but by faith in Christ's work. (Gal 3:3)
- c. Righteousness (thus life) is imputed through faith in Christ's work. (Gal 3:6)
- d. Those under the law, are under a curse. It is evident: no flesh is justified (made righteous, given life) by law. (Gal 3:10)
- e. The law is not of faith. The man that does the work will live. (No man does the work.) (Gal 3:21)
- f. Christ became this curse for us so that we could receive the Spirit through faith. (Gal 3:14)
- g. Abraham received *promises* and righteousness 430 years before the law. The law cannot change what was promised.
- h. Inheritance/being a child of God does not come by the law. (Gal 3:16-18)
 - i. Heathen being justified, by faith, becoming heirs, children of God... this is the promise of righteousness by faith - the promise we share with Abraham. (Rom 4:13-16)

2. "Thy seed" (Christ) and the Law • Galatians 3:19-23

- a. Added because of transgressions:
 - i. God gave them up to reprobate minds (Rom 1:18, 28)
 - ii. God laid down **the law** and **separated** a people to Himself (Rom 2:17-23, Eph 2:14-16)
 - iii. Why the law? So that all are clearly guilty, even God's people (Rom 3:19-20)
- b. The law is holy, just, and good. Mankind is not. The law is weak through the flesh. It cannot save. (Rom 7:12-13, Rom 8:1-3)
- c. The conclusion if you're paying attention: We all deserve God's wrath. (Prov 11:23)
- d. Blessed is the man! David could not offer sacrifice, but received mercy. (Rom 4:6)
- e. Even today there is a lawful use of the law. To show the sin of the unrighteous. (1 Tim 1:5-9)
 - i. Faith unfeigned: from which some have swerved. To what? Law. Life is found in Christ. (Rom 7:24, 8:2-3)
 - ii. Sin is contrary to sound doctrine. In Christ we are dead to sin and the law. (Rom 6:16-22)
 - iii. Grace teaches us that we are no longer dead in trespasses and sins. (Eph 2:1-6)
- f. The law does not give life, but rather death, it is the strength of sin. (1 Cor 15:55-58)
- g. Life is only in Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our mediator. (1 Tim 2:5, Col 3:1-4)
 - i. By the works of the law, no flesh shall be justified. (Gal 2:16, 21)
- h. All under sin: Jew and Gentile. Every mouth stopped. Sin clearly seen and understood. (Rom 3:19-20)
- i. The promise by faith of Jesus Christ. What is this? Righteousness. Life. Justification. Given to those who believe. (Phil 3:9-10, Rom 3:21-24)

3. The End of Tutors and Governors • Galatians 3:24-29

- a. Why the law? To bring us to Christ. To receive justification without works (by faith). (Titus 3:5)
- b. The lesson of the law is to show sin, transgressions, offences.
- c. This lesson brings you to the grace of God, sinners can be justified by what Christ has done.
- d. Once you have faith: You are no longer under the schoolmaster. (Rom 6:14)
- e. Dispensationally this is leading us to the "time appointed by the Father" - that God views the believer today as an adult. As someone equipped and capable of knowing His will and continuing in it.
- f. Baptized into Christ: your entry into the body of Christ, your access to God the Father.
- g. You are a child of God, you are one with Christ, you are heirs. Joint-heirs with Christ (Rom 8:17)
- h. Heirs according to promise → of righteousness, of justification by faith.
- i. Abraham? If the Galatians want to claim Abraham, this is how they need to do it. They are not Israel, there is no Jew nor Greek in the body of Christ.