

Those Who Belong to Christ are Abraham's Seed

Galatians 3:15-29 (vv.26-29)

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I. Historical Background and Biblical Context

a. Historical Background

Before the foundations of the world, God had a planned for the redemption of mankind. God knew before He formed man from the dust of the earth and made him in His image that man would be sinful and disobedience. Despite all that, God loved so much what He had created in His image that in His divine wisdom and knowledge He prepared a way for the restoration and reconciliation of man's relationship to Him.

Everything that God has put in place has a divine purpose. God directed and still directs the course of history. From the Garden of Eden, perfect until Adam and Eve disobedience which brought about sin to Garden in Revelation, perfect without sin.

It is God who has orchestrated this world. There is nothing that happens is outside of Him. He knows all there is to know, the date, and time is going to happen, the how and when, and lastly the where. Only the Sovereign God is all knowing. This is His world, and this include everyone and everything.

We see through the acts of history how God's plan of salvation unfolds to include not just one sect or group of people but to everyone who believes in God's Son, Jesus the Redeemer. God has never left man out of His planning.

God 's plan of salvation for mankind was established long before the world was formed, and it was revealed during course of history from Genesis to Revelation.

b. Biblical Context

Since the beginning of time, there has been false teachers and prophets. Jesus said during His time that there were many false teachers. Today there are

even more. Their sole purpose was/is to sway people from the truth of God's Word with their enticing and persuasive words. When we accept and confess the one true gospel that Jesus Christ is the only way, the truth and the life and then turn back to former ways or to believe otherwise is like a dog who returns to his vomit (2 Peter 2:22).

In Chapter 1, Paul laid out the good news of God's grace. It is Jesus who gave Himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

In Chapter 2, we are to be keenly aware of those who comes into your fellowship by way of the backdoor to put you back from where God has brought you from. When we place our trust and faith in Jesus Christ, we are delivered from the bondage of sin and its curse. We have liberty in Christ Jesus. Our obedience then is to be to our Lord and His Lordship only.

This religious sect called Judaizes who follow the Mosaic laws religiously, their expectations were that everyone else would do as they do to include the Gentiles that converted to Christianity. Paul set the record straight by declaring that we are not saved by the law but by faith in Jesus Christ.

Jesus took on the curse of the law and died in our place so we might be set free by putting our faith in Him, the Liberator and Redeemer (Galatians 3:10-14).

II. The Lesson: Those Who Belong to Christ are Abraham's Seed

1. vv. 15-18.

In this text, Paul's tone has gone from sternness to compassion. He goes from calling them foolish Galatians (v. 3:1) to brethren (v. 3:15). Paul's love for the people was such that he wanted them to have clear understanding about the law of God versus the promise of God. One is temporary and the other is eternal. To enlightened their understanding of how unchangeable God's promises are, Paul used an analogy from the human affairs of everyday life. Oftentimes in His earthly ministry, Jesus spoke in parables. (Matthew 13:3; Mark 4:2). Parables had one point that was to establish comparison. Those dramatic stories were drawn

from everyday life focusing on spiritual circumstances. In comparison, Paul plainly explained how the promise God made with Abraham is in full effect. A human will in place can only be revoked by destroying the original, creating a new one, or amending the current one. Only the testator can make any changes to an existing will. For anyone else to do otherwise, it would be illegal. That's man's affair but God Almighty, who changes not, promises are from everlasting to everlasting. No man nor law can void, disannul, add nor subtract from what God promised. Is illegal it is to change legal document of man, it more dangerous to attempt to change the Word of God. (vv. Deuteronomy 4:2; Revelation 22:18-19). No one can change an original will but the one who made it. God made promises to Abraham. Abraham didn't made promises to God. He obeyed God. God counted that to him as righteousness.

What God put in place, can only be changed by God. The promises God to Abraham were not just to him but to his seed also, who is Jesus. Through Jesus, everyone was included who places their faith in Him. God's promises predated the law that came 430 years afterward. The law is not the promise, but it does point us to the promise. The law is contrary to God's promise made to Abraham. The law did not alter or change the promises of God. Promises of God is not predicated to the law. Whereby the law was exclusive to include Jews, the promise of God is inclusive to all who believe in Jesus Christ. Because of what Jesus did on calvary, salvation is available to everyone. For the inheritance includes all the blessings of Abraham and his seed.

2. vv. 19-22.

Was the law necessary? Yes, it was added because of sin. The demands of the law were meant to compel men to recognize their violation of God's standards and to seek His grace through faith in Jesus. The law shows us that we cannot live a life pleasing on our own accord because we cannot perfectly keep the law. The law shows us that we cannot save ourselves. The law shows us that we are powerless to keep from sin on our own accord. We have all been prisoners to sin; but thanks be to God that the pardon and release from the captivity of sins come when we put our faith in Jesus who justified us by dying on the cross.

3. vv. 23-29.

Paul speaks of the time before Jesus the Messiah came. The law was in place until the coming of the Seed that God had promised. When Jesus came, the law was finally fulfilled. It was a temporary measure.

The purpose of the law was to prepare us for faith in Christ. It was not a substitute for our faith nor a supplement. The law was relieved of its duty when Christ came.

The law convicts of sin, restrains from sin, and condemns for sin but could not save us from sin. We are no longer under the law but under grace (Romans 6:15). All who are born again and sharing God's nature are children of God. (II Peter 1:4). Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ is the only human condition of salvation (Ephesians 2:8-10).

We are children of the promise because the promise speaks of salvation. The connection is of faith not the law.

Being baptized in Christ places us into a living union with Christ (I Corinthians 12-13), and with one another (Ephesians 4:15-16).

In Christ race or national distinction does not exist; class differences vanish, and sex rivalry disappears. At the foot of the cross all people are equal. There are no special privileges.

If we belong to Christ, we are Abraham's seed and heirs of God according to the promise. Christ is heir to all things. (Hebrews 1:2) and we are, joint heirs with Him.

III. **Conclusion:**

We are made right with God only by faith in Jesus.

The law of Moses could not make us right.