

Read Galatians 3:1-5

3:1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. 2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by 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 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith — 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

1. Underline the phrase works of the law, box **Spirit**, and circle **faith**.

2. Circle True or False:

The Galatians received the Spirit by obeying the Law

True or False

The Galatians received the Spirit by hearing with faith

True or False

God supplied the Spirit and worked miracles among the Galatians because they kept the Law.

True or False

3. Fill in the blank: Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being _____ by the flesh?

4. Paul points to the absurdity of returning to the law. They received the promised Holy Spirit through faith when they heard the gospel. Yet in verse 3, they believed they could be “perfected” by returning to the law. Why is this foolish?

Read Galatians 3:6-9

3:6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

5. Abraham is considered to be the father of the Jewish people. Yet, Paul (like John the Baptist in Matthew 3:9 and Jesus in John 8:39) challenges what it means to be a son of Abraham. According to verse 7, who are the sons of Abraham?

6. Did God always plan to have a gospel to save the Gentiles? How do you know according to verse 8?

Read Galatians 3:10-12

10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." 12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."

7. All who rely on the works of the law are under a _____
8. Cursed be _____ who does not abide by _____ things written in the Book of the Law and _____ them.
9. How many people will be justified before God by the law?
10. Verse 12 is a quote from Leviticus 18:5.

Leviticus 18:5 You shall therefore keep my statutes and my rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the Lord.

What does the "them" refer to in Leviticus 18:5?

How does a person live according to Leviticus 18:5? How does this differ from how the righteous lives in Gal 3:11 (Hab 2:4)?

Read Galatians 3:13

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

11. According to verse 13, How did Christ redeem us from the curse of the law?
12. Read Acts 5:30; 10:39. When did Christ receive the curse of hanging on a tree? Why do you think instead of using the word "cross", Paul (in Galatians) and Luke (in Acts) say that Christ died on a tree?

Read Galatians 3:14

14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

13. Circle the correct prepositional phrase for verse 14.

"with Christ" "by Christ" "through Christ" "in Christ"

14. The Gentiles receive the Promised Spirit through faith as a result of being _____

- 15. Read 1 Corinthians 12:13. How does one get “into the body of Christ?” How are they baptized and what do they drink of?**

Read Galatians 3:15-16

15 To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. 16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. 17 This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. 18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise

- 16. Consider the following definitions.**

Annul- declare invalid

Ratify- to sign or make a contract/agreement officially valid

Why is it wrong to “annul”, change, or add to a contract once it has been agreed upon?

- 17. How many years later did the Mosaic Law come after the promise to Abraham?**

- 18. Why can a later law (the Mosaic Law) not change the previous promise (Abrahamic Covenant)?**

- 19. If the inheritance comes by the _____, it no longer comes by _____, but God gave it to Abraham by a _____**

Bonus Questions

Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 & Ezekiel 36:25-28

- 20. How will the New Covenant be different than the Old Covenant?**

- 21. What will God put within his people?**

Group Application:

- 1. What truth resonated most with you as you studied Galatians 3:1-18?**

- 2. Why is it important to see a proper balance of continuity and discontinuity in the Old and New Testaments (Covenants)? What happens if you have too much discontinuity? What happens if you have too much continuity?**

- 3. Why is it important to realize that people have always been saved by faith and not by works? How would that impact the nature/sinfulness of man, the holiness of God, and the sacrifice of Jesus?**

- 4. In the story of the Bible, God shows himself faithful to save humanity even when they rebel against Him. How can the truth of God's faithfulness encourage you in your life and walk with Him?**

- 5. In Galatians 3:3 Paul warns with a question "having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?" Why is it tempting to turn to legalism rather than faith in Christ, even after you received salvation by grace?**

- 6. How can living by faith in what Christ has done for you encourage holy living in a way that earning righteousness cannot? Why is obedience that comes from trusting God superior than obedience that comes from trying to earn favor with God? What are the differences in emotions?**

- 7. Share requests and pray for one another! Specifically pray that you would remember God's faithfulness to his people throughout all generations, even as we are unfaithful.**