

Read Galatians 3:18-19a

3:18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. 19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions,

1. At this point in his letter Paul takes up defending the purpose of the Law. Why do you think he felt the need to do this?

2. Circle the correct Statement:

The Law was added because it brought eternal life

The Law was added to demonstrate human righteousness

The Law was added because of human transgression

3. Read the following and fill in the blanks:

Romans 4:15 For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

Romans 5:20 Now the law came in to increase the trespass,

The law brings _____

Without the law, there is no _____

The law came in to _____ the trespass

Read Galatians 3:19a-b

3:19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made,

4. Underline the word “until.”

Consider the definition: Until- “up to the point in time or the event mentioned.”

What point in time or event eliminated the function of the law? (*Hint* write down the phrase that follows the word “until”)

Read Galatians 3:19c-20

and [the law] was put in place through angels by an intermediary. 20 Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

5. According to Jewish tradition the Law was given to Moses through angels (cf. Acts 7:53; Heb 2:2), therefore Moses is the intermediary. An intermediary is “a person who acts as a link between people.”

Who did Moses receive the law from?

Who did Moses receive the law for?

At minimum, how many people are required in a covenant where there is an intermediary?

Christ Alone: Study in Galatians. Study Guide 5 (Gal 3:19-29)

6. Consider God's promise to bless Abraham in Genesis 12. How many people does a promise depend upon?
7. Why then is God's promise to Abraham superior to the Law given by Moses for the people and God?

Read Galatians 3:21

21 Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.

8. The Law and the promises of God are not _____ to one another.
9. The Promises of God gives life because God gives us His righteousness. The Law cannot give _____, otherwise _____ would be by the law.
10. Circle the term you think best describes the relationship between the Law and the Promises of God?

Same

Contrary

Complimentary

Read Galatians 3:22

22 But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

11. What does the term imprisoned mean?
12. How does the Scripture (the Law) imprison people?
13. What was the purpose of imprisoning people under sin? (*Hint* so that _____)

Read Galatians 3:23-24

23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. 24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

14. Why do you think being imprisoned by the Law leads us to faith in God rather than faith in our own righteousness? What does the Law reveal about us?
15. How does the Law encourage faith?

Read Galatians 3:25-26

25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

16. Consider the purpose of the Law. Why does faith in Christ fulfill its purpose?

17. One becomes a child of God through faith when they are

In Christ

with Christ

Know of Christ

Read Galatians 3:27-29

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

18. To put on Christ, you must be _____ into Christ.

19. Spirit baptism makes all people _____ in Christ Jesus.

20. Since all are one in Christ Jesus, does any ethnicity, economic status, or gender limit one's eternal inheritance? Why, what is the inheritance based on?

21. If we are one with Christ, then we inherit the promises of Christ. What promise did Christ inherit? (*Hint* Gal 3:16,19)

22. If we are one with Christ, what promise do we then inherit as a result of being unified with Christ through Spirit Baptism?

Group Application:

- 1. What truth resonated most with you as you studied Galatians 3:19-29?**

- 2. When you read the Bible, what commands/commandments remind you that you fall short of God's righteous standard? (i.e. *love your enemies, forgive, do not covet, whoever lusts has committed adultery, etc*)**

- 3. How is trying to earn righteousness by the law dangerous?**

- 4. Do you tend to misuse the Law by focusing on your self-righteousness and looking down on others or do you tend to misuse the Law by feeling hopeless and alienated from a cruel God?**

- 5. Why is it a relief to know that God's promises solely depend upon Him?**

- 6. Belonging to Jesus is our hope for receiving the inheritance promised to Abraham. How does this change how we view people who differ from us? How does it undercut the typical barriers society has placed (intellectual, economic, racial, cultural)?**

- 7. How can you personally use the Law more effectively in your walk with the Lord?**

- 8. Share requests and pray for one another! Specifically pray that you would remember to use God's law rightly and that it would lead you to faith in His grace!**