

Christ Set Us Free: A Study through the Book of Galatians

The Purpose of the Law and the Promise of Christ, Galatians 3:19-29

Galatians 3:19-20 Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made. Now a mediator is not for one party only; whereas God is only one.

Galatians 2:16 nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified.

Galatians 3:2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith

Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them."

Galatians 3:6-7 Even so Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham.

Galatians 3:17-18 What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.

Transgressions

Sin: to miss the mark, to fall short. A general term that includes doing anything by thought, word, or action that is against God's will.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Transgression: a specific sin that involves a direct violation of God's law, a conscious decision to do the opposite of an explicit command.

Romans 5:20-21 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hearing aid illustration:

Kim "You need to get your hearing tested" (sin)

Tester "The test shows deficits in the following areas" (transgression)

Solution “Get help outside yourself” (not more testing)

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Angels and divine revelation

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Hebrews 2:1-3 For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?

Covenants and mediators

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Until the seed would come:

If Law was sufficient, there would be no need to mediate between God and humans

Instead, Christ our Messiah is our promised Mediator

Galatians 3:16 Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as referring to many, but rather to one, “And to your seed,” that is, Christ.

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Mediator: someone who intercedes between two parties

Job 9:32-33 “For He is not a man as I am that I may answer Him, that we may go to court together. There is no umpire between us, Who may lay his hand upon us both.”

I Timothy 2:3-6 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all.

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