

Book of Galatians
(God's Written Law vs Rabbinical Oral Law)

2018 Part 11



Context of Galatians

- *Main Theme* of the book – *That the Law of God does not exist to Save anyone (to justify/to declare one righteous); the theme has nothing to do with instructions on how a Believer is to live after he is Saved.*
- *Why did Paul have to write this letter?* – *because there were Judaizers... Pharisees and other false Jewish brethren who believed in the Messiah but nevertheless demanded that Gentile Believers, to be Saved, first had to accept Judaism, the Oral law, and submit to the authority of the Rabbis.*

Purpose for God's Law

The Law serves these two purposes:

- *It defines sin (1Jn 3/4) ... it tells us that we are sinners (Rom 3:20) ... that we deserve death (Rom 6:23) ... that we need a Savior ... Jesus the Messiah is that Savior.*
- *After accepting Jesus as our Savior, the law shows us how to live a Godly life ... the way we were designed to live in order to function properly ... faith is the beginning NOT the end of our Christian journey ... what follows after faith is obedience to God's law which brings blessings to those that follow it.*

Law's Purpose for the Unbeliever & Believer

- *For the "Unbeliever" – shows that he is a sinner and deserve the death penalty and therefore, it points him to the Messiah who can Save him from the death and give him eternal life.*
- *For the "Believer" – shows him how to live once he is Saved.*

Brief Review of Last Week's Message

Galatians 3/16-28

- Gal 3:16-18 ...to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made (Abrahamic Covenant). He does not say, "And to seeds," ..., but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. 17...the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later (Mosaic Covenant given at Mt. Sinai), cannot annul the covenant (promises of the Abrahamic Covenant) that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. 18 For if the inheritance (Abrahamic promises) is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise (due to Abraham's faith demonstrated by his obedience).

Abraham's Faith Followed by Works

- *FAITH: Gen 15:5-6 ...He brought him outside and said, "Look, .. toward heaven, ...count the stars if you are able to number them." ... "So shall your descendants be." 6 And he believed..., and He accounted it to him for righteousness.*
- *WORKS: Gen 26:4-5 ...I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; ...in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; 5 because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws."*

*Abraham's Faith + Works
Resulted In Teaching God's Law to His Children*

- Gen 18:18-20 ... *Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."*

Paul Compares the Two Covenants Abrahamic and Mosaic

- *Abrahamic Covenant – Covenant of Promise came first through faith.*
- *Mosaic Covenant – Covenant of Obedience came second 430 years later in order for God to show Israel (the Redeemed Community) how to live and how to be an example to the nations around.*

DARKNESS

DARKNESS

DEATH/CURSES

TORAH – God’s Teaching -TORAH
(Christ’s Redeemed

Community)

1. Abrahamic Covenant *(Faith – How to “enter” into the Redeemed Community)*
2. Mosaic Covenant *(Obedience – How to “live” in the Redeemed Community)*

TORAH – God’s Protection - TORAH

DEATH/CURSES

TORAH TORAH

TORAH TORAH

SATAN’S WORLD

SATAN’S WORLD

DEATH/
CURSES

DEATH/
CURSES

SATAN’S WORLD

SATAN’S WORLD

DARKNESS

DARKNESS

Paul Compares These Two Covenants

<i>Covenant</i>	<i>Abrahamic</i>	<i>Mosaic</i>
<i>Nature of the Covenant</i>	<i>Covenant of Promise</i>	<i>The Redeemed (Delivered) Community Enjoys the Promises of the Abrahamic Covenant</i>
<i>Expected Covenant Response</i>	<i>Faith</i>	<i>Obedience</i>

Galatians 3/19-29

Galatians 3/19

- Gal 3:19 What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.
- What was “added because or whenever anyone transgressed the law or committed sin” during OT times before Christ came?
- Answer: The “Sacrificial System” part of the Torah was what was added until Christ came.

Jer 7:22-23

- *Jer 7:20-25 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat. 22 For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices. 23 But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.' 24 Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.*

Sacrifices Added Until Christ Came

- *Heb 9:6-15 Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services. 7 But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance; 8 the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing.*

Sacrifices Added Until Christ Came

- 9 *It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience — 10 concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation. 11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.*

Sacrifices Added Until Christ Came

- *12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, 14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

Sacrifices Added Until Christ Came

- *15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.*

Galatians 3/19b-20

- *Gal 3:19-20* ...and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator (Moses was the mediator of the Mosaic Covenant). 20 Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one (the Abrahamic Covenant had no mediator...God and Abraham spoke face to face).
- *Here Paul also emphasizes* the preeminence of the Abrahamic Covenant *over the Mosaic Covenant* made with Abraham's descendants at Mt. Sinai.

Galatians 3/21

- Gal 3:21 *Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! (The Abrahamic Covenant/Faith & Mosaic Covenant/Obedience work hand-in-hand with one another... they are not in opposition to one another) For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law.*
- The role of God's Law *is not for salvation... faith is... God's Law leads one to Jesus the Messiah BUT once saved, God's Law shows a saved person how to be obedient to God... God's Law is the standard for human behavior of God's people.*

Galatians 3/22

- *Gal 3:22 But the Scripture (which includes the Torah) has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe (we are all under the “death penalty” of the wages of sin until we proclaim faith in Jesus’s redemptive acts).*

Galatians 3/23-25

- Gal 3:23-25 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Galatians 3/23-25

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24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.
- Gal 3:34-25 (NIV) Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. 24 So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

Galatians 3/24 - Tutor

- *Gal 3:24 Therefore the law was our tutor (schoolmaster...other versions) to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*
- *Read margin notes NKJ Bible – “In a household, the guardians responsible for the care and discipline of the children.”*
- *Greek for tutor (paidagogos) – A guardian and guide for boys. Among the Greeks and the Romans the name was applied to trustworthy slaves who were charged with the duty of supervising the life and morals of boys belonging to the better class.*

Galatians 3/24 - Tutor

- *The boys were not allowed so much as to step out of the house without them before arriving at the age of manhood. The point of Paul's argument is that the Torah is a tool in the hands of the Holy Spirit, designed by the Father to lead us to the Teacher of Righteousness. The Torah is not the Teacher. The Torah is not the goal; Messiah is the goal. The Torah functions to lead the unregenerate man to faith. One of the functions of the Torah is to lead unbelievers to Jesus the Messiah...after being saved, the Torah teaches the person how to live a Believer's life.*

No Longer Under a Tutor Once You Come to Faith

- *Gal 3:25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.*
- *Once the Torah leads an “unbeliever” to faith in Jesus the Messiah, he is no longer needs this guide-tutor-supervisor... he no longer needs a “paidagogos”. The “paidagogos”, having served its intended function, now takes on a new role for the boy, one of instructing him how to live life.*

Galatians 3/22

- Gal 3:26-29 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 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 neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
- Obviously difference still exist between all these groups. But now each has equal access to Salvation... all of us (Israelite and Gentile) are now heirs of the promises along with Abraham and Jesus.

Next Week

Chapter 4/1-?