

Galatians 3

King James Version (KJV)

3 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? (They were taught the truth by Paul and his helpers. Then in a short time, they fell back to the traditions and doctrines of men. They abandoned the truth of God's Word)

² This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (Did the law save you, or did your faith in Jesus give you salvation?)

³ Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? (perfect = mature) (The answer is no. It wasn't the law that saved them. It was the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They should have known better)

⁴ Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain. (Did you learn God's Word all for nothing? Only to turn back to traditions of men)

⁵ He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (God performed miracles through Christian teachers like Paul, not by the law. That should have been proof enough for them)

⁶ Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. (God blessed Abraham because he believed)

⁷ Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. (He will also bless you also IF you believe in the salvation of Jesus Christ)

⁸ And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. (all nations = the Jews and the Gentiles)

Genesis-12:3 (Foretelling that God would come later as Jesus. HE would open salvation to all people who will believe on Him and repent for their sins)

⁹ So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.
(That's how Abraham was made father of many nations; not just of the Israelites) Isaiah-7:14

¹⁰ For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. (If all we had was the law, no one would make it. We are all sinners. It is through the salvation of Jesus Christ that we receive forgiveness when we repent of our sins)

¹¹ But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

Habakuk-2:4 (The law could only save us if we never sinned. Since we all sin, only God's salvation will save us)

(Jesus said many times, "Your faith has saved you") see Luke-18:42, Luke 17:19, Luke-7:50

¹² And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. (The law is absolute. You either make it or you don't. It is our faith in Jesus' salvation that allows us to repent for our sins and get right with God)

¹³ Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: (That was man's judgment; not God's) Deuteronomy-21:23

(Jesus "hung on a tree" when he was crucified on a wooden Roman cross, for our salvation. Although He was without sin, He took on the curses of man, in order to pay for our redemption.)

(HE became our kinsman redeemer. HE wasn't cursed. HE died to redeem us <the cursed> from our sins)

¹⁴ That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Ezekiel-11:19 (The blessings that God gave to Abraham are now open to us by the grace of God)

¹⁵ Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth

thereto. (confirmed = contractual, a legal agreement) (A contract is a contract – with man or with God)

(Jesus <God in the flesh> gave us a new contract – the New Testament. It is not breakable, nor can you go back to the old contract of blood ordinances; like circumcision and animal sacrifices)

¹⁶ Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. (God <as Jesus Christ> fulfilled His promise to Abraham. Through Abraham's seed would come a Blessing to many nations. The Blessing was Jesus and His contract of salvation and forgiveness for our sins to all peoples who believe in Him)

¹⁷ And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. (The promise was made 30 years before the 400 year captivity in Egypt)

¹⁸ For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. (The law <Ten Commandments> is the rules and the guide. But, it is salvation and repentance that does the saving if a law was broken) see 1Epistle of John-3:4

¹⁹ Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. (Gabriel was the mediator who came to Mary to bring the promise that God made to Abraham. That she would conceive and bring forth God in the flesh <Jesus>) see Isaiah-7:14, Luke-1

²⁰ Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

²¹ Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. (The law is the set of rules. It does not bring life; because every one of us has broken at least one commandment. We would all fail if it wasn't for the salvation that Christ gave us)

²² But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. (That is our road to salvation – believe in Jesus as our Savior, and repent for your sins)

²³ But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. (Those that died before Jesus came didn't make it. We all break one commandment or another in life)

(That's why, after He was crucified, Jesus went to them <the spirits in prison> to offer them salvation, like He offers us. Many believed in Him and were saved. God is fair. HE offers everyone the same chance to decide for themselves) see 1Peter-3:19-20

²⁴ Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. (The law <Ten Commandments> is still in effect. It tells us right from wrong. It is our guide on how to live a blessed and happy life)

²⁵ But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. (We are no longer bound under the statutes and ordinances of penalties for breaking the law – the Old Testament)

(We are now under Christ's salvation, if we repent for breaking the law and change our ways – the New Testament)

²⁶ For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. (Jesus added salvation to replace the Old Testament penalties for breaking the law. HE didn't do away with the law itself. Now Jews and Gentiles are able to join Christianity and receive salvation) Matthew-5:18

²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (With your baptism into Christianity came the salvation that Jesus gave us)

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. (We are one Christian family under Jesus Christ)

²⁹ And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Christianity is the one spiritual family that God promised Abraham. Abraham didn't do it; Jesus Christ did)