

Galatians 3

I. You are foolish when you do not obey the truth. Vs. 1

Matthew 7:26

“And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:”

II. Seven questions as to why you are not obeying the truth. Vs. 1-5

A. Who hath bewitched you? Vs. 1

1. False Christs and false prophets?

Matthew 24:24

“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”

2. Sorcerers?

Acts 8:9-11

“But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:”

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.”

3. Satan and his false apostles?

2 Corinthians 11:3

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

4. Cunning craftiness of men?

Ephesians 4:14

“That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”

5. Women preachers?

Revelation 2:20

“Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.”

B. Haven't you seen the evidence of Christ crucified among you?

Vs. 1

1 Corinthians 2:2

“For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”

1 Corinthians 1:23-24

“But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;
24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”

C. “Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?” vs. 2

Acts 11:15-18

“And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.”

Romans 1:17

“For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”

Romans 10:17

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

D. “Are ye so foolish?” Vs. 3

E. “Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?” Vs. 3

John 6:63

“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”

Romans 7:18

“For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.”

Romans 7:25

“I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.”

Hebrews 7:19

“For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.”

F. “Have ye suffered so many things in vain?” Vs. 4

1 Peter 5:10

“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.”

Romans 8:17-18

“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

2 Timothy 3:12

“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

G. “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?” Vs. 5

Romans 10:17

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

III. God’s covenant with Abraham. Vs. 6-18

A. The covenant of righteousness by faith. Vs. 6

1. Abraham became righteous by faith. Vs. 6

Romans 4:9-10

“Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

10 How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.”

James 2:23

“And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.”

2. By faith you become a child of Abraham. Vs. 7

Romans 4:11-12

“And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.”

B. The covenant (gospel) was preached unto Abraham, by the statement, “In thee shall all nations be blessed.” Vs. 8

Genesis 12:3

“And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”

1. This gospel preached unto Abraham taught “That God would justify the heathen through faith.” Vs., 8

2. “So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.” Vs. 9

Romans 4:16

“Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only

which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,”

C. The curse of the Law. Vs. 10

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

“Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;
27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day:

28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.”

Deuteronomy 27:26

“Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.”

Romans 3:19-20

“Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

James 2:9-11

“But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.”

1. No man is justified by the law in the sight of God. Vs. 11
2. The just shall live by faith. Vs. 11

3. The law is not of faith. Vs. 12

4. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law. Vs. 13

Romans 3:24-26

“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”

Titus 2:14

“Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”

Ephesians 1:7

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”

5. Christ was made a curse for us. Vs. 13

2 Corinthians 5:21

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

1 Peter 2:24

“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”

D. The covenant (blessings) of Abraham can be to the Gentiles through Jesus Christ by faith. Vs. 14

E. When the covenant is confirmed, no one can disannul it or add to it. Vs. 15

Hebrews 9:16-17

“For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.

17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.”

F. The covenant (promises) were made to Abraham and his seed.

Vs. 16

1. Seed as of one, not seeds as of many. Vs. 16

Genesis 13:15-16

“For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.”

Genesis 22:17-18

“That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.”

2. That seed is Christ. Vs. 16

G. The covenant was confirmed by God in Christ. Vs. 17

1. The covenant was confirmed by the death of Jesus on the cross.

John 19:30

“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.”

Hebrews 9:16-17

“For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.

17 For a testament is of force after men are dead:
otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.”

2. The law cannot disannul it. Vs. 17

H. If the covenant (inheritance) be of the law, it is no more of
promise. Vs. 18

Romans 4:13-16

“For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world,
was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but
through the righteousness of faith.

14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made
void, and the promise made of none effect:

15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is,
there is no transgression.

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the
end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that
only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the
faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,”

1. God gave the covenant (inheritance) by promise. Vs. 18

IV. Purpose of the law. Vs. 19-29

A. “Wherefore then serveth the law?” Vs. 19

1. It was added because of sins. Vs. 19

Romans 7:7

“What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I
had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust,
except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.”

Romans 7:13

“Was then that which is good made death unto me? God
forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in
me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment
might become exceeding sinful.”

2. It will serve till the seed comes. Vs. 19

3. It was ordained by angels. Vs. 19-20

B. "Is the law then against the promises (covenant) of God?" Vs. 21

1. God forbid. Vs. 21

2. Righteousness could not come by the law. Vs. 21

3. The law concluded that all are under sin. Vs. 22

Romans 3:10

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:"

Romans 3:23

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

a) That the covenant (promises) by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. Vs. 22

Romans 11:32

"For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all."

1 John 2:25

"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life."

C. The law was a schoolmaster. Vs. 23-25

1. The law kept us in school until the faith came. Vs. 23

Luke 10:23-24

"And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately,

Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see:

24 For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them."

2. The law taught us about Christ. Vs. 24

Acts 13:38-39

"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."

Romans 10:4

“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.”

Hebrews 7:19

“For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.”

Hebrews 9:8-16

“The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

10 Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to 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, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

15 ¶ And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the

transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.”

Hebrews 10:1-14

“For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

7 ¶ Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.”

3. The law taught us that we are justified by faith. Vs. 24

4. Once faith came, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Vs. 25

Matthew 5:17-18

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.”

Romans 7:4

“Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.”

D. All are children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. Vs. 26

John 1:12-13

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

Romans 8:15-17

“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.”

1 John 3:1-2

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”

1. When you have been baptized in Christ, you have put on Christ. Vs. 27

Romans 6:3-4

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

2. All are one in Christ. Vs. 28

1 Corinthians 12:13

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

Ephesians 3:6-10

“That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,”

Colossians 3:11

“Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.”

John 10:16

“And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.”

1 Corinthians 12:12

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.”

Ephesians 2:19-22

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Ephesians 4:4

“There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;”

Ephesians 4:15-16

“But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”

3. In Christ you are Abraham’s seed and heirs by the covenant (promises). Vs. 29

Ephesians 3:6

“That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:”