

LAW vs. GRACE

A verse by verse study guide on the book of Galatians



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I want to first thank our Savior Jesus Christ for shedding his blood for me and for sending the Holy Spirit to give me the inspiration to put this study guide together. There are many that would come to the LORD

If they just had a better understanding. Hopefully this breakdown of Galatians, a book many consider the keystone to taking the western world from paganism will help many in there walk with Christ.

I want to thank the following people for giving me the proper doctrinal foundation

Perry Stone, Chuck Missler, Chuck Smith, Members of the various Calvary Chapels, Angel Madera, Pastor Vic of the Calvary Chapel Aventura who helped lead me to the Blue Letter Bible and especially Pastor Glenn Wilson and his family that were there for me through some very tough times.

Preface to Galatians

27 books in the New Testament. The Apostle Paul wrote over half. Galatians by scholars is thought to be one of the most important and also an expansion of Romans. Interesting that 17 of the 28 chapters of the book of ACTS deal with Paul. From Acts 15 on, none of the other Apostles are mentioned.

Many scholars consider this one of his most important letters. If it were not for the letters of Paul, we would be in darkness concerning the truth of the church as the body of Christ. It's function, activity and destiny. Galatians more than any other book of the bible became the manifesto of freedom and a revival of biblical truth during the reformation. Called by some the Magna Carta of spiritual emancipation. Martin Luther's commentary on Galatians was one of the key books in the reformation.

It's thought that the entire western world may have been totally pagan had it not been written. This 6th letter changed the course of human history. Galatians embodies Christian freedom, which separated Christianity from Judaism. Launched upon a career of missionary conquest it was a cornerstone of the process of reformation because of it's teaching of Salvation by grace alone became the dominant theme of the preaching of the reformers.

BIG DIVISION IN THE CHURCH: Jews that were Christians believed someone was going to come to Christ had to become Jewish first. That's the way it was done in the past and they could understand that.

In that day any Gentiles that came to GOD were called Proselyte's (EX: Ruth & Rahab the Harlot) The Jewish Christians believed they had to become Jewish first and accept worship and all the ceremonial laws before coming to Christ. Paul made it clear the gospel was not an addendum to Judaism, not a supplement to the law but rather an end or fulfillment of the law.

You see, the Jews didn't realize the boundaries of the new Kingdom would go far beyond that of Israel not only nationally, but also theologically and socially. Even though Jesus, The Messiah, came from David's line, Peter says in (Acts 13:38-39) *All of you, my fellow Israelites, are to know for sure **that** it is through Jesus **that** the message about forgiveness of sins is preached to you; you are to know **that everyone** who **believes** in him is set free from all the sins from which the Law of Moses could not set you free.*

With Paul it wasn't BOTH, it was either-or regarding the Law and the Gospel. This is what the book of Galatians focuses in on.

When you read **Habakkuk 2:4 Behold the proud, his soul is not upright in him; but the just shall live by his faith.** It is this verse that many believe started the Reformation movement. This verse is quoted in 3 epistles (Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 & Hebrews 10:38). **Who are the JUST?** That is what the book of Romans details. **How shall the JUST live?** This is what Galatians covers. **The JUST shall live by Faith.** This is what the book of Hebrews covers. Each of these Epistles quotes Habakkuk 2:4. Some believe

these three books seem to be a trilogy of Habakkuk. This is also why some scholars believe Paul wrote the book of Hebrews. If Paul didn't write Hebrews then the Holy Spirit is all over these books because as we know there are no coincidences in the Bible. Isn't it fascinating to know that these 66 Books written by 40 guys pens the evidence of design as a package.

Galatians is in a sense a prelude to Romans. Emphasizes the main theme that Salvation is by GRACE Alone. Sort of a sketch of an unfinished picture and Romans will take that sketch and render it in great detail.

GRACE: Paul talks about Grace in great detail. What is Grace? **Unmerited FAVOR.**

GRACE is different from MERCY; Grace is getting what you don't deserve. Mercy is not getting what you do deserve.

You don't want JUSTICE; You want GRACE and MERCY

It's interesting that GOD has chosen to SAVE us by HIS Grace ALONE, WHY?

GRACE is the ultimate rebuttal to Man's PRIDE. We're saved entirely by His Grace. It's blasphemy to try and add anything to it, yet we try. It's the history of RELIGION. We try to reconcile ourselves to GOD. That's a form of arrogance and pride. No matter how hard we try, we cannot reconcile ourselves. Our salvation is provided only through GOD's grace.

Grace is GOD's answer to pride. Good works does not make a man good but a good man does good works. That's the real definition of Liberty.

What Paul will be dealing with in the Epistles is that there will always be FALSE teachers that will try to get us into some form of what's called Theologically, **Legalism**. There's something very strange about error. Once error grips the mind it seems to assume an importance Truth itself never had. When someone gets on a false doctrine it gets so intense it assumes an importance Truth never had. Legalism always takes the heart out of Christianity and replaces it with stone. The heart of Christianity is GOD's FREE Grace in Jesus Christ. Simple idea yet the most difficult to fully apprehend. We always feel we have to do something. Let the law do it's honorable work of showing us our sin. That's the role of the law. Let us understand where we stand, that we're sinners. But that's all it can do, it can't repair it. Only one that can repair it is Jesus Christ. That's the great tragedy of Psychology. Psychology, desperately tries to help man with his predicament. But what it can't understand is that the heart of man's predicament is SIN. The real root problem in most behavior is guilt and guilt comes from SIN. Psychology has no answer for SIN. Doesn't even acknowledge it can only deny it. It can try to remove the guilt but can't remove the cause of the guilt. Can only treat the symptom, not the cause. Doesn't have an answer for SIN. In fact generally doesn't even acknowledge it, there in lies it's frustration.

Paul's goal in the epistle and his ministry was to keep the new kingdom from being another Jewish sect but rather a gospel of grace to ALL MEN, not just Jews or Jewish converts.

His epistle has effectively blocked the path to paganism all through history.

This is the only epistle most will say that Paul intensely wrote himself by hand. Some of the other books he signed so they understood it was from him like Thessalonians and a couple others. In fact he makes reference to point out he is writing it in very large letters. Some assume his problem was his eyesight. We know that he had a problem. Speaks of his thorn in the flesh prayed it would go away 3x's GOD said his grace will be sufficient for you. Because of some of the elusions in some of the letters it is presumed that ever was his troubling problem, had to do with his eyesight. This could have been and after effect from his Damascus road experience. In one place he makes reference that if some people really loved him, compassionately committed to him, they would pluck out their eyes and give it to him as if that was the need he had (Reference to Gal 4:14-16).

The English Reformation was the series of events in 16th-century England by which the Church of England broke away from the authority of the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church. (King Henry VIII & Anne Boleyn)

Magna Carta

http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured_documents/magna_carta/

Question: "What does the Bible say about legalism? How can a Christian avoid falling into the trap of legalism?"

Answer: The word "legalism" does not occur in the Bible. It is a term Christians use to describe a doctrinal position emphasizing a system of rules and regulations for achieving both salvation and spiritual growth. Legalists believe in and demand a strict literal adherence to rules and regulations. Doctrinally, it is a position essentially opposed to grace. Those who hold a legalistic position often fail to see the real purpose for law, especially the purpose of the Old Testament law of Moses, which is to be our "schoolmaster" or "tutor" to bring us to Christ ([Galatians 3:24](#)).

Even true believers can be legalistic. We are instructed, rather, to be gracious to one another: "Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters" ([Romans 14:1](#)). Sadly, there are those who feel so strongly about non-essential doctrines that they will run others out of their fellowship, not even allowing the expression of another viewpoint. That, too, is legalism. Many legalistic believers today make the error of demanding unqualified adherence to their own biblical interpretations and even to their own traditions. For example, there are those who feel that to be spiritual one must simply avoid tobacco, alcoholic beverages, dancing, movies, etc. The truth is that avoiding these things is no guarantee of spirituality.

The apostle Paul warns us of legalism in [Colossians 2:20-23](#): "Since you died with Christ

to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: 'Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!?' These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence." Legalists may appear to be righteous and spiritual, but legalism ultimately fails to accomplish God's purposes because it is an outward performance instead of an inward change.

To avoid falling into the trap of legalism, we can start by holding fast to the words of the apostle John, "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" ([John 1:17](#)) and remembering to be gracious, especially to our brothers and sisters in Christ. "Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand" ([Romans 14:4](#)). "You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat" ([Romans 14:10](#)).

A word of caution is necessary here. While we need to be gracious to one another and tolerant of disagreement over disputable matters, we cannot accept heresy. We are exhorted to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints ([Jude 3](#)). If we remember these guidelines and apply them in love and mercy, we will be safe from both legalism and heresy. "Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world" ([1 John 4:1](#)).

STUDY GUIDE for Book of Galatians (King James Version)

The book that defines Law vs. Grace

GAL1:1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

Apostle: The sent one; higher office. Term we use with someone that beheld the risen Christ. Paul did at Damascus

Disciple: One that is learning or following. Paul usually refers to himself as a servant, bond slave. Paul emphasizes the resurrection central to his message in Corinthians.

1COR 15

GAL1:2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

GAL1:3 Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,

You can't have peace without the grace of GOD

GAL1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

Paul here jumps right in to describe the work of Jesus Christ (**Who gave Himself for our sins**) Jesus is the channel of GOD's grace

Jesus is the channel of GOD's grace. Purpose of GOD's grace is to deliver us from this present evil world. Source of GOD's grace is the sovereign will of the Father. GOD's love is not an emotion it's an **UNCONDITIONAL commitment**.

2Cor: 5 Jesus was made sin for us.

GAL 3:13 He was made a curse for us.

ISAH 53 His soul was made an offering for sin

GAL1:5 To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the reason for GOD's grace, to bring glory to GOD forever and ever

EPH 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God

EPH 2:9 Not of works, lest anyone should boast

WHY if GOD knew Adam would sin did he put him in that position that only the death of GOD would extricate us?

ANSWER... EPH 2:7 but lets start with v6

EPH 2:6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

WHY? EPH 2:7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

(GOD is demonstrating Infinite LOVE)

You want to see **infinite power**, look at outer space through a telescope. Try to understand the sweep of the Heavens. Try to understand the power and extent of the universe. It's mind boggling, no way can we grasp it.

Infinite Knowledge: Can't really embrace it but intellectually we can get a sense of the idea GOD knows everything. He is outside Time He knows the Beginning from the End. **GOD has ALL Knowledge:** GOD can't learn so he is not surprised by our mistakes and can't be disappointed in us. We may be disappointed, as we know how much we screwed up the situation. Is GOD surprised? No that's why he had to die.

So what is GOD displaying: Not infinite Power, Knowledge or any of these infinite things, **GOD is demonstrating INFINITE LOVE.** That's what **EPH 2:7** is about.

IF you're trying to add to GOD's grace, it's no longer GRACE it's WAGES. It's not saying you shouldn't do nice deeds but you're not adding to your Salvation. If you don't realize it's a gift from GOD. You're not on sound Theological footing and you're headed for trouble. And that's what Paul deals with in his Epistles to the Galatians.

GRACE EXCLUDES ALL HUMAN EFFORT!!!

2TIM 1:9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began

ROM 11:6 And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

1SAMUEL 2:6-9 "The LORD kills and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and brings up. The LORD makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and lifts up. He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the beggar from the ash heap, To set them among princes and make them inherit the throne of glory. "For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and He has set the world upon them. He will guard the feet of His saints, but the wicked shall be silent in darkness. "For by strength no man shall prevail.

GAL1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel

Paul is surprised that the Galatians have turned away so quickly from TRUTH to UN-TRUTH

GAL1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

If I say give me another pen, you don't know if I want another pen in general of any type or another pencil exactly like the one I was using.

GREEKS had two different words: (**Allo** – Another of the same type) (**Hederon** – Another that's a different kind) English language doesn't have a word to make this distinction but here Paul is talking about HEDERON. The false teachers Paul is dealing with advocate the Mosaic Law. Can't really be a Christian if you don't worship on Saturday. Can't be a Christian if not circumcised. These are Jewish Christians that are insisting on adhering to the ceremonial law. They had another agenda. If you like the Mosaic Laws and want to worship on Saturday's that's OK, that's not the point but I ask you are you doing it under the LAW because if you are then you missed the whole point of what Christ was all about. AND THAT'S THE POINT!!!

COL 2:16 Therefore let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,

COL 2:17 Which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

WHY?

COL 2:11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

COL 2:12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

COL 2:13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the un-circumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

ACTS 10:43 All the prophets spoke about him, saying that all who believe in him will have their sins forgiven through the power of his name.

GAL1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Paul's Apostleship is being challenged, because he had not been ordained by man He was ordained directly by Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus. Recounts in (ACTS 9, Hebrews to his own, Agrippa his enemies, letter to Timothy). His whole ministry's foundation is based on the event on the road to Damascus.

GAL1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

Recounting his history that the LORD taught him. Paul was in an interesting predicament. Hated by the JEWS because he was now a Christian and hated by the Christians because they didn't trust him.

Legalism is only part of the problem. What was really concerning the Jewish Christian was "What will happen to Israel"? Is all this history of Abraham for nothing? Is Israel over? What they didn't realize was **ACTS 15: 14-16** This shows that GOD will take out the church first (Rapture) then come back lift the veil from the eyes of the JEWS so they will know Jesus was the Messiah and pray earnestly for his Salvation. This will be during the Tribulation period. The time of the Gentile is finite; there is a time it will close. A Gentile does not have to become a Jew to accept Christ. As you study the bible you will see GOD has a plan for Israel. Church and Israel have different Origins, Different Missions & Different Destiny's. Many people get this confused. Israel is mentioned 75x's in 73 verses in the New Testament. Each time it is referring to National Israel. Paul spends 3 Chapters in the book of Romans talking about this 9, 10, 11, hammering this point.

ACT 15:14-16 *"Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name. "And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written 'After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen down. I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up,*

LAW vs. GRACE

Old Testament shows under the Law - DEATH

New Testament shows under Christ - GRACE

LAW - Numbers 15:32-36 Now while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron, and to all the congregation. They put him under guard, because it had not been explained what should be done to him. Then the LORD said to Moses, "The man must surely be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp." So, as the LORD commanded Moses, all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him with stones, and he died.

LAW - Deu 21:18-21 "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and who, when they have chastened him, will not heed them, "then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city, to the gate of his city. "And they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.' "Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death with stones; so you shall put away the evil person from among you, and all Israel shall hear and fear.

GRACE - Luke 15:11-32 " Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. "And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. "Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. "And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 'for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. "So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. 'It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive, and was lost and is found.' "

LAW - Lev 20:10 "If a man commits adultery with another man's wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death.

In comparison: What happened to woman caught in Adultery? (Forgiven)

GRACE - John 8:3-11 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. When they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

LAW vs. GRACE – Law is Holy. That is why sinners are condemned by it. Law is Just, That's why it can't show mercy to the guilty. Showing mercy to the guilty is not just. Law prohibits but GRACE invites and gives. Law condemns the sinner but Grace redeems the sinner. Law reveals sin but Grace atones for sin. By the Law is the knowledge of sin. By Grace is the redemption from sin. The Law was given by Moses but Grace and truth were given by Jesus Christ. The Law demands obedience. Grace bestows and empowers us to obey. The Law says Do and Do Not. Grace says It is done. The Law says continue to be Holy. Grace says It is Finished. The Law curses, Grace blesses. Law slays the sinner. Grace makes the sinner alive. The Law shuts the mouth of every man before GOD. Grace opens every mouth to praise GOD. Law condemns the Best Man. Grace saves the worst man. Law says Pay what you owe. Grace says I forgive you all. Law says the wages of sin is death. Grace says the gift of GOD is eternal life. Etc...

Most of us don't burn to keep the Laws of Moses BUT everyone of us will try to put ourselves in a position of the same type of bondage. We find reasons to put ourselves under bondage, that's called RELIGION.

Jesus is Anti-Religion

When Adam and Eve realized they had sinned (what did they do?) they tried to cover themselves with leaves but GOD covered them with animal skin (**GEN 3:21**). GOD showed that innocent blood had to be shed for their sins. This is another example that man cannot makeup for their sins but we need GOD/Jesus to do it for us.

Religion is doomed to failure because it is man's way to reconcile himself to GOD.

As a Christian it is great not to drink or smoke or curse etc... Make your list of things not to do. Those are worthwhile things to avoid but that is not what's important. You worshipping on Saturday don't contribute to your Salvation. Your Salvation was done on the cross.

GAL1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

Paul is letting them know that he is not trying to make friends but merely doing the will of Jesus Christ.

GAL1:11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

This verse is backed by **1 Corinthians 2:14** The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

GAL1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

This is Paul's point. He didn't learn this from the other Apostles. He learned it from Christ himself. Wasn't until later when he was established that he interacted with the Apostles. He got the message from the LORD directly.

GAL1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

GAL1:14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

Paul loved Judaism. He was a Pharisee (**Acts 22:3** "I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of **Gamaliel**, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today).

Acts 5:34 But one of them, a Pharisee named **Gamaliel**, who was a teacher of the Law and was highly respected by all the people, stood up in the Council. He ordered the apostles to be taken out for a while

GAL1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace

Paul would have lived his life a Pharisee had I not been for GOD's GRACE

GOD has a specific purpose for each of us. Verse 15 tells that GOD had a plan for Paul before he was born. Paul was educated highly respected, a Roman citizen, immersed in the Greek culture since boyhood GOD has a specific purpose for each of us if we are serving him according to his plan. THAT's THE GREAT ADVENTURE & CHALLENGE: To discover what that is.

GAL1:16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood

It was not until the conversion of Saul to Paul that anyone preached Christ be the son of GOD. (**LUK 8:28**) *The demons recognized that in the gospels but it wasn't preached.*

REV 4:11 *GOD creates us for his pleasure. Wants us to reveal his son to the world. – That's our highest purpose*

GAL1:17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

This is Paul's point. He didn't learn this from the other Apostles. He learned it from Christ himself. Wasn't until later when he was established that he interacted with the Apostles. He got the message from the LORD directly.

GAL1:18-24 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not. Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia; And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ: But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed. And they glorified God in me.

Paul is recounting his history. Paul was in a strange predicament. He was hated by the Christians for persecuting them and hated by the Jews because he is now a Christian.

GAL2:1 Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also.

GAL2:2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.

Paul didn't go until it was revealed to him

GAL2:3 But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised:

Titus was a Gentile that he took with him to preach to the Jews
Peter preached to the Jews and Paul to the Gentiles. Paul would have loved to have preached to the Jews but because of Paul's background being a Roman citizen and being taught by the finest Gentile teachers *Gamaliel* and schools This made Paul a perfect fit; He knew how to reach that culture. This is another example of purpose (Because of Paul's upbringing He knew how to relate to the Gentiles much easier than any of the Apostles).

GAL2:4-9 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me: But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the

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circumcision was unto Peter; (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:) And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

Basically the Apostle's realized Paul was on the same page as them and let Paul and Barnabas do their thing and they did theirs.

GAL2:10-11 Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do. But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.

Paul was not subservient to Peter. Saw him as an equal brother in Christ not as a senior.

GAL2:12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

James was the leader of the Church in Jerusalem – Peter would now eat with the Gentiles (**Acts 10**) but when the Jews came he separated himself not to be seen. Even Barnabas was being a hypocrite. They were Christians but still letting the Law get in the way. Peter, who we know was Spirit filled was in error. Goes to show we all slip up.

BTW: Peter was preaching the same message as Paul
ACT 2:37-41 PENTACOST
ACT 3:19 :26
ACT 4:10-12 Sanhedrin

Only difference between Peter's message and Paul's is that Paul gets into Justification. We are accepted by the Grace of GOD

GAL2:13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.

GAL2:14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

Paul is talking about the Hypocrisy.

GAL2:15-16 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

If someone says: I keep the 10 Commandments

If someone says: I'm as good as the next guy

If someone says: I'm doing the best I can

These are all prideful statements and will all lead to failure

It's about GRACE!!!

GAL2:17-19 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God.

Law can't try a dead man. In Christ we are dead to the Law. Romans 6-7 goes into depth on this. Saints remember this: you cannot be tried for the same crime twice; double jeopardy. So therefore if Christ paid for our sins we cannot pay for them again.

When did we die? – Verse 20

GAL2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

GAL2:21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

When Christ was in the garden and he prayed 3x's if this cup can be passed from him and Christ sweated drops of blood. Those prayers or request were not answered because it was only through his death on the cross.

It's amazing how simple this concept is; yet it is so tough for man to conceive. No matter if your sin was murder, adultery etc... JESUS already knew/knows this and it is accounted for. No sin too terrible that JESUS didn't cover with his blood. This is so simple, fantastic and so extreme it should be the most consuming part of our lives to learn it, understand it and share it. Yet it is so hard for us to really accept it. This is why Paul felt it appropriate because Peter was miscommunicating the Gospel by his behavior. When you and I miscommunicate the Grace of GOD through our behavior, Paul would call us out. Do we have liberty in Christ. How do we use it? How do we make it a love gift back to him? This is what Paul deals with in chapters 3-4.

GAL3:1 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?

Paul is talking very direct & severe to the Judisers. Saying who hath bewitched you, Paul is wondering if they are under a spell of some sort.

GAL3:2 This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Paul is not questioning there Salvation but asking a rhetorical question are they saved by faith or works?

GAL3:3 Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?

Is asking how will you be sanctified, made complete? Paul is asking will you start by the Christian life one way, by faith. Then move on to spiritual maturity in another. Paul is saying we are Saved, Justified and Sanctified by Faith and not by any actions of man.

GAL3:4 Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain.

Paul is looking back at the persecution that the Christians faced in the area. Telling them if they turn from Grace unto the Law they would brand their former position as an error. It also clouds what the real gospel is and would have suffered all this persecution for nothing.

GAL3:5 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?

Jews that were saved but wanted to revert back to Jewish customs, The Law

GAL3:6-7 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

HEB 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises ***offered up his only begotten son,***

HEB 11:18 of whom it was said, "***In Isaac your seed shall be called,***"

HEB 11:19 accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

GEN 22:1 Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

GEN 22:2 And He said, "***Take now your son, your only son Isaac,*** whom you love, and go to the land of ***Moriah,*** and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

GEN 22:3 So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

GEN 22:4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.

GEN 22:5 And Abraham said to his young men, "***Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.***"

GEN 22:6 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his

son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.

GEN 22:7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

GEN 22:8 ***And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering."*** And the two of them went together.

GEN 22:9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood.

GEN 22:10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

GEN 22:11 But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

GEN 22:12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

GEN 22:13 Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

GEN 22:14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided."

GEN 22:15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,

GEN 22:16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son,

GEN 22:17 "in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

GEN 22:18 "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

GEN 22:19 ***So Abraham*** returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

Verse 19 there is no mention of Isaac. Isaac is not mentioned again until he is united with Rebekah. (Abraham's servant GEN 24:2 goes to find Isaac a wife. This is a TYPE (Abraham/Isaac, GOD/Jesus, Servant/Holy Spirit) Abraham's servant who is not mentioned by name, but we know who this eldest servant is. He is mentioned in Ch 15:2, his name is Eliezer (Name means comforter, just like the Holy Spirit) going to get Isaac's bride same as the Holy Spirit getting Jesus' bride "The Church" This area that Abraham took Isaac is the same place Jesus was crucified almost 2000 years later.

What is so fascinating and makes the bible so awesome is to see that 66 books written by 40 different people over 2000 year span designed as an integrated message. If you delete a chapter or take out a page, the integrity is not lost.

GAL3:8 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.

(Although there is a Jewish church, Jewish leaders, Jewish Scriptures and a Jewish Messiah – Goes beyond that, ALL the Nations will be blessed including the Gentiles) Paul strikes a major blow to the Judisers. We are Saved by Faith not the Law.

GAL3:9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

(Again talking about Faith not the LAW)

GAL3:10-12 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. But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

We want to be careful not to put ourselves back under the curse of the LAW. If you want to worship on Saturday that's fine but don't do it because of the LAW. We can't keep the LAW. Adam showed that when GOD only gave them one Law it couldn't be kept. LAW is meant to Reveal and show but it can't fix or justify. LAW only condemns because the LAW demands PERFECTION! Living under the LAW is a prideful act and GOD HATES Pride. Pride is how Sin entered the world through Satan's pride.

GAL3:13 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

Isiah 53 deals with this

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, **yet he opened not his mouth**: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, **so he openeth not his mouth**. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

In Jewish times if you were to be put to death you were stoned, then once dead hung on a tree for everyone to see. It was meant to show GOD's rejection. Christ hanging on the Cross was his Divine Rejection, paying for our sins.

(An anticipated moment)

Numbers 21: 4-9 And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread. And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Why would GOD have Moses make a Bronze snake and put it on a pole and anyone that looked upon it would be healed of the Snake bite (Faith)

John 3:14

Jesus tells Nicodemus (Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes and looks to Christ may have eternal life in him.) (Faith)

Brass – Form of judgment, HEAT, Serpent – Curse
Christ became sin on the cross for us. **Sets up John 3:16**

Book of Ruth is a TYPE or MODEL of the New Testament

Naomi – redeems the land (Israel)

Ruth – Gentile (Church)

Boaz – Kinsman Redeemer (Christ)

Nearer Kinsman – He was the one that had first opportunity but wasn't willing to marry Ruth so Boaz fell next in line. Nearer Kinsman represents the (LAW) but then we went to Grace through Jesus Christ (Boaz, Kinsman Redeemer)

GAL3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Gentiles receive the blessings given to Abraham. Abraham was saved by his faith not the Law, Law had not yet been established that comes centuries later through Moses. Also all those that believe receive the SPIRIT. Talking about the Holy Spirit Salvation and Sanctification is what Paul is talking about Faith not Works. What was done by the Spirit will not be completed in the flesh. Sanctification was to address the Judisers. They thought ok you're saved but you need to do the ways of the Jews, The Law.

GAL3:15 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.

GAL3:16 *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.

Many of the modern translations have SEEDS or DECENDANTS, which is an incorrect translation (New American Standard, Good News Translation, New Living Translation)

SEED is referring to a specific person (Jesus Christ)

Genesis 13:15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy **seed** forever.

Genesis 24:7 The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy **seed** will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.

GAL3:17 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.

Scholars have tried to conclude where these 430yrs come from.

Genesis 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **four hundred years**

Acts 7:6 And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil **four hundred years**.

Some believe this 430yr span starts in **Genesis 35:9-12** And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him. And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land. (**Abrahamic Covenant w/Jacob**) OR

Genesis 46:1-4 And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba,

and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac. And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I. And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation: I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes. **(Final confirmation of the Covenant)**

Regardless, Paul is saying that the Permanence of Faith that was given to Abraham could not be later annulled through the LAW that was given 430yrs after the promise. (End of the age of promise — beginning of the Age of Law).

GAL3:18 For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

Paul is saying that inheritance is an unconditional gift to those that believe. It's a gift you don't earn it. GOD's way of salvation has always been Grace & Sanctification through Faith.

GAL3:19 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.

Here the question being asked "Why the Law then"?

Transgressions. Law was intended to check your sins because sins would incur GOD's wrath because sin is a transgression of GOD's Law. **1 Timothy 1** Paul explains this. Meant to be temporary until the SEED (Messiah) came, Law was a temporary restraint. Law was inferior because of the way it was bestowed. GOD made the promise to Abraham directly. Law was established through these angels that represented GOD & Moses represented the people.

Paul's opposition had objections to Paul's basic insistence.

- Law could not give the Holy Spirit (verses 1-5 talks about)
- Law could not bring justification (verses 6-9 talks about)
- Law could not alter the permanence of the faith, It is FOREVER (verses 15-18 talks about)
- BUT IT DOES BRING A CURSE (verses 10-13)

GAL3:20 Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

Means there is no mediator. GOD dealt with Abraham directly. Gave him the promise directly. The Law was given through a mediator, Moses. Paul was talking to his opposition like a lawyer. A mediator has to have two parties to agree to the deal. The blessings to Abraham were not a two party deal. It was an UNCONDITIONAL gift from GOD.

GAL3:21 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.

Paul is saying GOD gave the Law & The Promise but for different purposes. The purpose of the Law was not to give life. In theory, the Law could have given salvation if the people could have kept the Law. How many of us can keep the Law, NO ONE! This is what **Romans 7-8** talk about. Life is promised to those that obey the Law but this is a temporary blessing **Deuteronomy 8:1**

This is demonstrated clearly in the Garden of Gethsemane at the Mount of Olives. **Luke 22: 42-44** Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Jesus is praying intensely to the point that he is sweating drops of blood. Luke who was a physician is pointing this out. Doctors have said when the body is under severe stress the capillary vessels near the base of the skin can burst causing this rare occurrence.

Jesus is asking the Father, if there is another way around this, lets do it. Jesus prayed 3x's but the prayer was not answered. Otherwise Christ died in vain.

REMEMBER:

Jesus knew the beatings were coming and the nails to the hands and feet and even the hair from his face would be ripped out. For us as human beings this is all we can comprehend. **Isiah 53 gives a graphic depiction of this punishment. The issue that Jesus may have been so worried about is that for the first time in the history of the universe, the Father would be separated from the Son. We can't even begin to imagine this and the cost Jesus paid for our salvation. This is most likely why he said Father why do you forsake me. Because for the first time the Father and Son were not one!**

The Law could not justify or give life but it prepared the way for the Gospel.

GAL3:22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

1st thing Law serves is that we are prisoners of sin. Christ redeemed us of that sin. Without the Law you would not recognize this. You would go around saying You're OK, I'm OK. **Deuteronomy 26-27** and **Romans 3** talk about the whole world being trapped under sin. People trying to please GOD through there own works is called RELIGION. It started in the Garden of Eden when Adam & Even tried to cover themselves with Fig Leaves. GOD used lambskin to show you had to be covered through the shedding of innocent blood and we can't cover our sins on our own.

GAL3:23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

The Law was GOD's way of shielding his people from the heathen nations surrounding them. Which will later be revealed through Jesus Christ.

GAL3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

In the original translation the term for Schoolmaster was PEDAGOGUE. Schoolmaster is the best term to use but a Pedagogue in ancient times was a slave that looked after his master's son. In ancient times a Pedagogue's main task was to make sure his master's son was versed in the ways of the land and made sure the child was brought up in the proper ways. Paul is saying this was the way until Christ came.

GAL3:25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Law can't lead us to Christ just a disciplinarian until Christ came

GAL3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

All that believe in Christ becomes children of GOD. As simple as this sounds many don't get how unique this is, including pastors. Look at **John 1:10-13** He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 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: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Prior to our belief in Christ we were NOT sons of GOD. The term Bene elohim is a term used in the OLD TESTAMENT. It is never used of believers. It is used for angels because angels are a direct creation of GOD so they are called Sons of GOD. Adam was a son of GOD. WE are sons of Adam. The term Bene elohim is a term only used for angels, Adam & Christ. We have a genetic defect that we inherited from Adam so until we accept Christ we are NOT sons of GOD. The Sadducee's Were trying to trap Jesus asking about marriage and in **Luke 20: 34-36** it says "And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. Since there is no death in Heaven there is no need of marriage. Jesus doesn't talk about sex because the need for a husband and wife is for the purpose of procreation on earth because of death. In verse 36 it says we are now equal with the angels because they don't die and then we become children of GOD. Before this we are NOT.

In the Greek there is a word "OIKETERION" This word means habitation/house. It is used only twice in the bible, (2Cor 5:2 & Jude1:6) This word is referring to our resurrection body. Jude 1:6 Jude is talking about Apostasy – People that have turned from GOD. **Jude 1:6** And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Jude is talking about some angels that are reserved a special form of judgment because they left their heavenly bodies to partake of some gross sins.

2 Peter 2: 4-6 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly. Jude and Peter are talking about **Genesis 6: 1-2** And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. Angels left their heavenly habitation to perform gross sins with women of earth. The results of this is **verse 4** There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. These are Nephilim (fallen one). Verse 9 is where Noah comes in and his gene pool was perfect and unblemished. Once you have an inside understanding of this the OLD TESTAMENT will be clearer.

Getting back to the point, when we accept Christ there is a MAJOR transformation that takes place in our lives and we now are the sons of GOD.

GAL3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

This implies a living union with Christ. This is what the baptism of the Holy Spirit is about. We take off the old garments of the Law and put on Christ robe of Righteousness.

GAL3:28 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 become one with each other. Believing Jew is no better than a believing Gentile. A believing master is no better than a believing slave. Believing man is not superior to a believing woman. Some Jewish men would pray a rabbinical prayer "I thank GOD for not making me a Gentile, a Slave or a Woman.

GAL3:29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Believers in Christ are Abraham's seed. Just as Christ is the seed of Abraham we thus in Christ are the seed in Abraham.

Many denominations don't believe there will be a rule on Earth by Christ. Church supplants Israel etc... Galatians 6 deals with this.

QUICK RECAP

Galatians was a gentile church with Christians that were Jews (Judisers), Greeks and Romans. Judisers believed in order to be saved you also had to follow the Jewish customs, The Law. Galatians was considered the pivot point for the Protestant Reformation, I talk about this in the Preface. What's so important about Galatians is that these 6 unique chapters, which many consider a short book on Romans, Paul in talking to the Galatians deals with the same critical issues you and I still deal with today.

What is most important is that Paul recognized something most of us don't. There are only two religions

1. Requires you to bring something (WORKS)
2. Won't allow you to (GRACE)

Paul is talking to the Galatians (Jews, Greeks and Romans) using a social style us living in a modern western culture are not familiar with. Minor children were not recognized as their father's heirs until they were officially adopted. Today's society thinks of adoption as an alternative to having a naturally born child. In the Hebrew, Greek and Roman cultures, yes you would eventually be heir but until adopted you had rights less than a slave. That's what the first 7 verses analogy is talking about.

GAL4:1 Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all;

Paul is using this example to illustrate the spiritual immaturity of those that lived under the Mosaic Law. Yes he is talking to the Galatian church but Paul is also giving us an insight of OLD vs. NEW TESTAMENT perspectives. Paul reminds the Galatians believers of certain characteristics of the heir as minor child.

GAL4:2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

In the Hebrew culture, children go to bar mitzvah at age 13 to become an adult but in the Greek and Roman household it was when the father chose. As we know some children take longer than others to mature. By birthright, the first-born son was destined to inherit the estate. But he was kept in subservience like a slave and he enjoyed no freedom and could make no decisions. Matter of fact they were kept in guardians by a slave (GAL 3:24 I talked about this). This was true until the boy came of age, which differed in the Hebrew, Greek and Roman society. Under Roman law, the age was set by the father and involved a public ceremony where the son was given the Toga Virilis, usually age 15. Which was a formal announcement that the boy is my son and heir and legally accountable.

GAL4:3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:

Paul is talking spiritually. When you were a child spiritually you were under the law. Contrasting a believer's former position to what we now enjoy under Christ. In their spiritual in-maturity they were like slaves. Base of the slavery is being under the scope of the world. The issue Paul is addressing is that if Christ freed you from bondage then your FREE, why go back. These types of bondage are the elementary stages of religious experience. Whether it's the Jews under the Law or Gentiles under bondage to heathen religions. Paul deals with this in **Colossians 2:16-23**. All of us whether it's under the Law of Moses or under the Law of some other ritual we are in bondage until Christ emancipate's us. This is Paul's whole argument. We don't want to be lured back into bondage that Christ freed us from. If we're FREE then we are FREE!

GAL4:4 But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

When is the fullness of time? (Verse2, When The Father appoints). When GOD decided to send forth his son made of a woman under the Law. What had happened at this time in human history?

1. Roman civilization had brought peace (Pax Romano) and a logistics system that facilitated travel to most of the known world.
2. The Greek civilization came and adopted a language that was universal among the known world. Alexander the Great was fixated on forcing Greek as the universal language. Although the official language of the Roman Empire was Latin, just about everyone spoke Greek.

3. Plus the Jews had proclaimed Monotheism and the Messianic hope through out there synagogues.

There was a political system to provide stability through out the world. A language system that was widespread and the Jews had established a foundation in which to build the Messianic hope through out the Mediterranean world.

The other reason is that it was exactly the time the angel Gabriel told Daniel the Messiah would be rejected **Daniel 9:24-26**. Almost 5 centuries later that the Messiah would be presented to the world on a Colt. What is interesting is that the people on multiple occasions wanted to make Jesus king and whenever they would, he would walk away. The only time Jesus allowed the people to honor him was in Mark 11:1-7 which fulfills the scripture in Daniel of about 500 years earlier.

Mark 11:1-7 And when they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples, And saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him. And if any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither. And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him. And certain of them that stood there said unto them, What do ye, loosing the colt? And they said unto them even as Jesus had commanded: and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him.

Zechariah 9:9: Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Paul is also making mention to the mother, which harmonizes the Virgin Birth.

WHY a Virgin Birth?

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. This is the first explicit promise GOD makes that a Messiah, redeemer, will come forth and man will achieve redemption. BUT the seed is a contradiction in the grammar and the biology. The SEED is in the male not the female. The language hints to a virgin birth. The seed is talking about the lineage.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Paul also makes mention of this in **2 Timothy 2:8** Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel.

When you read Jeremiah 22 GOD is so mad with King Jeconiah that GOD declares a blood curse **Jeremiah 22:24-30** (verse 30) Thus saith the LORD, Write ye this man childless, a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.

When GOD says this, Satan is probably thinking, I Got Him! Because the Messiah had to come through a royal line but yet King Jeconiah was given a blood curse because he was so evil. GOD doesn't lie or contradict himself so what does this mean? **Matthew 1:1-16** gives the lineage. Goes from Abraham to Joseph (The Legal Line), **Luke 3:23-38** Goes from Adam to Mary through Heli the father of Mary (The Blood Line). Joseph is descendant through Solomon and Mary through Nathan both son's of King David.

See Genealogy of Jesus Christ

GOD is an awesome GOD! He provided himself a loophole that would allow women to be included in the ancestral line if they met two stringent conditions.

- **Num 27:8** "Therefore, tell the Israelites; If a man dies without leaving a son, you shall let his heritage pass on to his daughter."
- **Num 36:6-7** "This is what the Lord commands with regard to the daughters of Salphahad: They may marry anyone they please, provided they marry into a clan of their ancestral tribe, so that no heritage of the Israelites will pass from one tribe to another, but all the Israelites will retain their own ancestral heritage."

The father of Mary had no sons. Mary married within her own tribe of Judah.

Gen 49:8-12 Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? **The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come**; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

The verse The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come. Means Jesus will be the last descendant from the line of David. Jesus is from the tribe of Judah. Shiloh means Messiah. This puts to rest any thought of the book/movie Davinci Code that Jesus and Mary Magdalene had a child together.

Jesus was born under the law and did not commit sin. Remember his statement in Matthew 5:17-18

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 fulfill. 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.

Every detail of the law was fulfilled by Jesus.

GAL4:5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Jesus came to redeem & set free those under the Law. Redeem us from the bondage of the Mosaic Law. Christ in carnation and death secured for believers the full rights of sons, all the rights of a mature son in the family.

Romans 8:17 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.

There is a religious group that claim they are part of the 144,000 that will be saved. That is a tough statement to make when you have over 1 million members but lets take a look at the verse this 144,000 is referring to in Revelations 7. Now these 144,000 that are mentioned in Revelations 7 will serve the LORD day and night. **Revelation 7:15** Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

These 144,000 are those redeemed after the Tribulation. They will be in heaven but they will serve day and night. That is not necessarily a bad thing but what makes those that are saved before the tribulation more significant is we are **Joint-heirs with Christ**. Our destiny is mind-boggling when you think of that statement. We will be priest and kings according to Rev 1:6 & Rev 5:10.

Revelation 1:6 And hath made us **kings and priests** unto God **and** his Father; to him be glory **and** dominion for ever **and** ever. Amen.

Revelation 5:10 And hast made us unto our God **kings and priests**: **and** we shall reign on the earth.

GAL4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

This passage is backed by **Romans 8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. (I ask, are you being led by the Spirit of GOD)? If you are then you are reaching a level of maturity. If you think that because you are saved you can continue to sin continuously without shame, then you MUST look in the mirror and wonder have you fully matured.

Romans 8:15-18 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. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 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. 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.

The term Abba, Father is a fascinating one. Abba is an Aramaic word for father but the English translation is daddy. The term daddy depicts intimacy and trust. It was only after Pentecost was the term Abba used by disciples.

In the Old Testament, followers didn't use the term Abba because they always depicted themselves as servants of GOD. When the Apostles asked Jesus how to pray he said 'Abba Father' to show the intimate relationship that we now have along with Jesus and the father.

GAL4:7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Paul was Jewish talking to Gentiles. When he uses We & Us he is referring to the Jews. When he says Thou & you he is referring to the Gentiles. As you read this you must remember to keep a healthy respect for the text because the subtle uses of the words are significant. Look at John 20:17

John 20:17 Jesus saith unto her (Mary Magdalene), Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.
Notice Jesus does not say Our Father, Our GOD because his relationship is still unique. GOD was Jesus' father before time began. These are not stylistic differences this is one of fingerprints of the bible that the text was supernaturally inspired. The subtleties of the text never violate the sound doctrine of the text.

Yes we are now adopted children of GOD and joint-heirs with Christ and will still receive all the blessings that will also be bestowed upon Christ as heirs but we are still created beings and GOD is the creator and as John 1:1 states

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Also know that John 20:17 is a fulfillment of Psalm 22:22

Psalm 22:22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

When we become adopted into GOD's family we must not take the LORD our GOD's name in vain.

When you read Exodus 20:7 and Deuteronomy 5:11 both verses say

Exodus 20:7 & Deuteronomy 5:11 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. This is not talking about using profanity. Of course we don't want to use profanity when talking about GOD but what this passage is really talking about is Living Up To HIS Name! Bring honor to the house of GOD. The Hebrew people were called by the name of the LORD by the nations around them.

When we fail through our conduct or words we are not magnifying the LORD but instead giving the enemy of GOD the opportunity to blaspheme.

If any of you saw the 1959 Academy Award winner Ben-Hur, the Roman Aristocrat for saving his life when the ship was going to sink adopted Judah Ben-Hur. Heston's character was now burdened with bringing honor to that household.

When my actions, words, conduct, response to a situation fails to magnify the GOD of who's name I'm called, that is what is at issue.

Law vs. Grace... A verse by verse study guide on the book of Galatians

An Example: When I was a child my uncle's and aunt's would always say 'You are a Valdez', remember that and keep your families name proud so when people in the street see you, they say that is one of those Valdez kids and they say it with pride do not bring shame upon the household.

GAL4:8 Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods.

Paul is talking about the worship of Greek and Roman gods as well as other pagan gods

GAL4:9 But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?

Paul is getting tough. Now that they have come to Christ and know of the True GOD, how do they let themselves return to bondage, which they were freed from in Christ Jesus. They were going from paganism into Judaism and the Laws. Paul is amazed with this. This goes back to the comment I made when we entered chapter 4

There are only two types of religions

1. Requires you to bring something (WORKS)
2. Won't allow you to (GRACE)

Titus 3:5 reiterates it again,

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

This is the prideful nature of man raising it's ugly head again. Paul is letting them know if you want to worship on the Sabbath don't do it because you think you are supposed to. Matthew 11:28 Jesus says

Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. We are not to just worship on the Sabbath but everyday. The book of Hebrews and Ephesians deals with rest.

GAL4:10 Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years.

This is talking about the Jewish calendar and feast days that the people are observing etc...

GAL4:11 I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.

Paul is pleading like a woman giving birth to a child and seeing that child not living up to their destiny. Labor to the point of exhaustion and was it for nothing.

There are many that will fall away and some may say they were never saved.

1John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

When you read the parable of the seed in Luke it says

Luke 8: 11-15 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

GAL4:12 Brethren, I beseech you, be as I am; for I am as ye are: ye have not injured me at all.

Now Paul is getting Personal. He's challenging the Galatians to be like him, "Free of the Law". The Galatian believers were gentiles that were putting themselves under the Law after becoming Christians. Paul stayed there to preach while under a serious injury. Paul deals with this same issues at Corinth.

1Corinthians 9:20-21 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

GAL4:13 Ye know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first.

Trying to touch their hearts reminding them about an earlier time when he went to Antioch Pisidian, Lystra, Derbe famous Galatian cities. **See Map A Reference**. He didn't come with pomp ceremony to profess authority over them, but he could have as an Apostle. Instead he came lowly to preach Christ crucified.

Whatever Paul's infirmity was the Galatians did not treat him with contempt or scorn as a weak messenger. Rather they received him as one would receive an angel or Christ himself. Although he had this infirmity they did not reject him. Paul makes the point that whatever this infirmity was it was the type of thing some would consider offensive or objectionable.

GAL4:14 And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

Whatever Paul's infirmity was he was not despised or rejected because of it. Many scholars believe this infirmity to be with his eyes especially after the comment in verse 15. In 2Corinthians, Paul prayed 3 times to have this infirmity removed.

2Corinthians 9:8-9 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

In 2Corinthians 9:7 When Paul talks about the Thorn in the flesh what is interesting is that through Paul's ministry he healed many sick but not himself. Paul knew that this was his cross he had to carry most likely for his treatment of the Christians before Christ changed him on the road to Damascus.

GAL4:15 Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me.

Paul was received with joy by the Galatians and through this verse many scholars believe that Paul's infirmity was with his eyes.

GAL4:16 Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

The best way to alienate yourself from someone is to tell him or her the truth. They were his friends and now want to look at him as an enemy for being truthful. Paul was not talking about Salvation by Grace (Ephesians talks about this). These people were Saved. Paul was discussing Justification & Sanctification by Faith. Not a question of Life after Death but Life after New Birth. Do you go back under The Law? If you do then you missed the point.

GAL4:17 They zealously affect you, but not well; yea, they would exclude you, that ye might affect them.

Paul's asking the Galatians to consider his attitude towards them which was innocent and without deception. The legalist on the other hand had improper motives. The Apostles spoke the truth but the Judisers used flattery and wanted to alienate the Galatians from Paul and his teachings so they would be followers of the Judisers and their false teachings.

GAL4:18 But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing, and not only when I am present with you.

Paul is saying it is good to be sought after but make sure the intentions are honorable.

GAL4:19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

The Apostles could honestly always say they had sound and good motives towards the Galatians. That is why Paul uses the term of endearment “My little children” as a mother would to her children in birth. In fact Paul is giving birth again to deliver them from this false teaching. When Paul says until Christ be formed in you, he expands upon this in Romans 12. When we are saved that Christ will form in you and live through each believer.

GAL4:20 I desire to be present with you now, and to change my voice; for I stand in doubt of you.

Paul is now going from booster to giving his final exam. He wanted to be there in person to deliver his message more directly.

GAL4:21 Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?

Now Paul is going to talk about the Law and Abraham but apply it in an unusual way. The Galatians had not gone to the Law but desired to and Paul desperately wants them turn back to a life under grace. So he is challenging them that if you want to be under the Law then you better understand what your getting into.

GAL4:22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

Now Paul is appealing to them by going back into the book of Genesis, which is on of the five books of the Torah. Paul was appealing to them by talking about the first Jew Abraham. Paul is reminding them about Abraham’s first two sons to prove a point. According to ancient customs whatever was the status of the mother was also the status of the child. if you were born to a slave you were also a slave.

GAL4:23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.

One was born through the flesh. Abraham was trying to help GOD by giving in to a procedure that was acceptable of the day. There’s no miracle or promise of GOD with the birth of Ishmael, born of the flesh. This is not to knock Hagar or Ishmael but to make a spiritual point. Isaac was born of faith. Isaac is a type of Christ.

- Named before he was born (Gen 17, Rom 9:7, Heb 11:18)
- Born as a result of a prophecy (born of faith)
- Supernaturally announced ahead of time
- Offered as a substitute offering, Jesus was the real offering in the same location, Mt. Moriah. Location Christ would be crucified 2000 years later

Law vs. Grace... A verse by verse study guide on the book of Galatians

Many of the stories in the Old Testament are real but carry a special symbolic significance. Paul is contrasting between Law & Grace but using historical events to make a moral point.

This is just some of the similarities, models or types. Hosea 12:10 & 1 Corinthians 10:11 points this out.

Hosea 12:10 I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used **similitudes**, by the ministry of the prophets.

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for **examples**: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

The bible is full of Micro & Macro codes. Macro-code sets up something in advance (anticipatory in time). Bible has many hidden messages that layout GOD's plan in advance a powerful way of validating the scriptures.

Gen 5 – Gospel laid out in the genealogy of Adam

Gen 22 – Sacrifice of Isaac / Foreshadowing crucifixion of Jesus

GAL4:24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Hagar.

Hagar & Ishmael speak of the Law, which was given at mount Sinai. Those under the legal covenant of the Mosaic Law were slaves. Hagar was brought forth a slave and so does the Law. If you're under the Law you are in bondage to the Law. In contrast, the Abrahamic covenant was under Grace. Abraham did nothing to receive GOD's grace except have faith. GOD came to Abraham while he was sleep; Genesis 15. We are in the same position as Abraham. Grace extracts no terms and no merit what GOD has for you; It is a gift.

GAL4:25 For this Hagar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

Paul is linking Hagar, Mt Sinai the Law, a conditional covenant to Jerusalem. Also Paul mentions Mt. Sinai in Arabia (recent digs have found that the real Mt. Sinai is in Saudi Arabia. To learn more http://www.arkdiscovery.com/mt_sinai_found.htm

Paul is also linking this to Jerusalem, which is in bondage.

Paul is linking to two Jerusalems. Hagar represents 1st Cent. Jerusalem (slave to Rome and slave to the Law). Reason Jews driven out of Jerusalem in 70AD was due to Luke 19:44

Luke 19:44 And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; **because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.**

Gabriel told Daniel the exact day Jesus would present himself as the Messiah. (Palm Sunday when He rode in on a donkey. Jesus wept because Jerusalem did not recognize.

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. Paul points out *in Romans 11:25 the Jews would be blinded until the church is removed.*

Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; **that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.** (This verse validates the Rapture of the church prior to the Tribulation period in Revelations.

The chief priest in **John 19:15** The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.

Hosea 1:9 Then the LORD said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.

Ezekiel 36:19 And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

Paul is calling the Jews figuratively, children of Hagar because they are slaves. All these verses setup Israel for the end-times return of Christ. After the church is raptured GOD will then focus again on Israel.

Until the death of Christ, GOD focused on the Jewish people but once Christ died for our sins now the Gentiles are grafted into the body of Christ. GOD now focuses on the gentile people until the church is removed and then the Jewish people earnestly seek GOD at which time Jesus will return. This point is backed by Romans 11:25 which I mentioned earlier. And hits home in Hosea.

Hosea 5:15 I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

GAL4:26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

Paul is indulging in a metaphor. Literal Jerusalem on the ground is in bondage. In contrast to the "New" Jerusalem that is revealed to John in Revelation 21:2.

Paul has taken this analogy 5 ways

- 2 Women (Hagar / Sarah)
- 2 Sons (Ishmael / Isaac)
- 2 Mountains. (Mt. Sinai / Calvary)
- 2 Cities (Earthly Jerusalem / Heavenly Jerusalem)
- 2 Covenants (Law & Grace)

Paul uses each to describe Law vs Grace. Paul is asking the question of that day and now, who are you a citizen of? Earthly Jerusalem or the Heavenly Jerusalem. Hagar or Sarah, Ishmael or Isaac, Mt. Sinai or Calvary

GAL4:27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

This is a very interesting comment by Paul because this is basically Isaiah 54:1. Which comes after Isaiah 53, which is considered the holy of holies and most majestic of the prophetic books. Isaiah 53 describes the crucifixion and what it means to “believers”.

The bareness relates to Israel for having rejected her Messiah. Israel was prophecy that GOD rejects the Jews for a season. Remember I mention those verses that back this (Ezekiel 36:19, Hosea 1:9, Romans 11:25, Zechariah 9:9, Hosea 1-2)

Are the Jews GOD’s people? Yes, but for a season GOD will reject them. This is explained why in Ezekiel 36:19-24.

Ezekiel 36:19-24 And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them. And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land. But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, **thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen**, whither ye went. And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

This is just a time that the Jews will not be GOD’s people to bring to pass and it also sets up Ezekiel 37-38 When GOD will put a hook in the jaw of Russia and the surrounding nations to attack Israel so that Israel can again see GOD’s mighty hand at work.

Hagar is the desolate and Sarah with husband. Which have the most offspring? Some believe there will be more people saved during the tribulation period than at any other time.

GAL4:28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

Paul is comparing us Christians to Isaac. Isaac was a supernatural birth and a child of GOD’s promise so are we “believers” experience a supernatural birth and is a recipient of the promise of salvation.

GAL4:29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

Paul is comparing Ishmael who was born of the flesh to Isaac that was born of the Spirit. When you read genesis 21 Abraham had a great feast and Ishmael was mocking Isaac.

Genesis 21:9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking.

This is still the instance of today. Non-believers mocking believers so this should not surprise you.

GAL4:30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

Paul is referring to **Genesis 21:10** Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.

Paul is showing that the Law's observance brought no inheritance. Paul's main point is you can't mix Law and Grace.

GAL4:31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

Paul is just rehashing the point that we are free under grace.

To Recap:

- Law is Just, can not show mercy to the guilty
- Law is Perfect that's why imperfect men can not keep it
- Law prohibits – Grace invites
- Law Reveals sin – Grace atones for sin
- Law is Knowledge of sin – Grace is redemption from sin
- Law was given by Moses – Grace by Jesus Christ
- Law says, Do and Do Not – Grace says it is done
- Law says pay what you owe – Grace says I freely forgive you of your debt
- Law says wages of sin is death – Grace says the Gift of GOD is eternal life
- Law curses – Grace blesses

Paul reaches into the Old Testament to pull an example then teach a spiritual truth. The Bible is not the Old Testament or the New Testament but both books combined to give you a full and complete picture. This is why you will hear many theologians say the phrase "The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed and the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed".

GAL5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Paul is summarizing bondage & freedom. Christ was the liberator that set us free. Any theology that has rules to get us to Heaven is bondage and that is what Christ delivered us from. The Galatian church was a Gentile church and Paul was trying to explain that now they were delivered from pagan bondage. Paul appeals to them to stand firm in that liberty but the Judisers were trying to tell them they had to become a Jew first.

GAL5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.

Paul is using circumcision as an example of the Law. He is not saying it is wrong to get circumcised but if you are doing it for the covenant relationship you are missing the New covenant. He is warning them that they are falling under righteousness by works. Remember, Paul is not condemning circumcision because he has Timothy circumcised in Acts 16:3 but he is saying don't do it to fall under Mosaic Law.

GAL5:3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

Paul is telling them that putting yourself under any part of the Law condemns you to All the Law. **Romans chapters 4-5** talk about this in detail.

Romans 11:6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

GAL5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

So many people naively say they live by the Ten Commandments or by the Sermon on the Mount. That again is going back unto Law because we can not keep those Laws.

GAL5:5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

For true believers we are saved but our consermation is when we meet Christ. Current we are transformed internally through the Spirit but when we meet Christ we will be transformed outwardly as well and given a new Heavenly body.

GAL5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Faith that is genuine will demonstrate your works through love.

GAL5:7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

Paul is using a sports term. Telling the Galatians they were running good and they were tripped up. Paul is making reference to a specific person of these judaiser's. That they were trying to complete the race by legalistic effort and not faith. This is the pothole in all of our roads we run.

GAL5:8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you.

Paul is letting them know, this is not of GOD, mixing works and grace. This could be part of Satan's trap. Get you so wrapped up in the works of the King that you have no time for the King. Someone says "I'm doing it for the church" but in reality they are doing it for their own ego. Everyday GOD ask us do you trust me. And every time we try to add to his Grace we are falling into the trap.

GAL5:9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

Leaven is always "bad" in scripture. This quote lets us know that even the smallest sin is a sin. When you read Matthew 13, the LORD gives his disciples 7 parables. The first few he interprets for them and some he does not. One thing to notice is that the idioms are consistent. Seed is always the word, field is always the world etc. The idioms are consistent throughout the scriptures. Now when you read **Matthew 13:33** it says: Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened. Jesus doesn't explain this. When you read **Genesis 18:6** it says: And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

In the Arab as well as the Jewish world this becomes the fellowship offering. You DO NOT put leaven in the fellowship offering. What this parable is saying is that CORRUPTION And FALSE DOCTRINE will be introduced and it will take over the world.

GAL5:10 I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be.

Paul is optimistic that they will get back on track. Jesus is reassuring this. But the one that is deceiving them will get his judgment.

GAL5:11 And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased.

Paul was being charged with preaching circumcision but he counters with saying if I'm preaching circumcision why am I still being persecuted? Christ crucified is what they consider offensive. The cross renders our works useless. Even to this day man wants salvation to be more than the cross but some act of man. Paul says in

1 Corinthians 9: 19-21 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might

Law vs. Grace... A verse by verse study guide on the book of Galatians

gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

The reason Paul had Timothy circumcised is so that he would fit in among the Jews to get the message across to get as many “Saved” as possible.

GAL5:12 I would they were even cut off which trouble you.

Here Paul is being sarcastic to say if you feel the need to castrate them, then so be it.

GAL5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Paul is reminding the believers don't use grace as a liberty for lust of the flesh, but for love. Don't be in bondage to the law but be in bondage to one another. Lust is taking; Love is giving. A great example is in John, Jesus showing the law of love – be a servant to all. The Master is setting an example.

John 13:14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

GAL5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Paul is referring to Leviticus

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

Showing Christian love is fulfilling of the Law and we who are in Christ who paid the Law.

GAL5:15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

Paul is stating love needs to be mutually expressed. When you have false teachings in the midst. You have divisions and strife in the church. To help avoid this is to make sure the church is teaching the whole word of GOD verse by verse from beginning to end. When you go through the whole council of GOD it helps you discern false teachings. When this is done every issue that is brought up by the church will be eventually addressed through verses of the bible. Some form of Legalism is usually the cause.

GAL5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Walking in the Spirit is a moment-by-moment thing; A growth thing. When you live through the Spirit you will not be tempted by the lust of the flesh. Walking in the Spirit will give you victory.

GAL5:17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

We all have two natures. Scripture doesn't talk about casting out the demon of flesh. We have a genetic defect that was passed down from Adam. Adam wasn't born with sin but he passed it on to us. When we accept Christ and are regenerated, we now have a new nature. We have two desires, one for evil one for holiness. The two natures are at constant battle with one another. This conflict can keep a believer from doing what he should if he is not walking by the spirit.

GAL5:18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

It was important for the Galatians to understand justification can't be achieved by works. Neither can sanctification response of faith is necessary. Faith in the Holy Spirit to Sanctify – Faith in Jesus Christ to Save. Many Christians are mixed up on this point, they read Eph 2:8-9 (saved by grace...) think that once they are saved by faith it is up to us to get our act together and Sanctification comes from effort. NO! Comes only through yielding to the Holy Spirit, moment-by-moment. We have the same sinful nature we had before being Saved and we can fall prey to the same sin nature if we don't take advantage of walking by the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a gentleman. He will never impose himself on us, we have to be yielded to him.

GAL5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Paul is explaining works of the flesh. Idolatry is anything that we put before GOD.

GAL5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Notice Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, gentleness, goodness & faith these are not produced by the believer but by the Holy Spirit working through the believer that is in vital union with Christ. This is broken down in [John 15](#).

GAL5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Believers, those that are in Christ Jesus we need not be responsive to the sinful nature because Christ crucified it through baptism and Holy Spirit Christians are identified with Christ in his death. This does not mean sin nature has been eradicated or rendered ineffective, just means that it has been judged. Faith must be continually held to this truth otherwise believers will continue to secure victory through self-effort.

GAL5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Works of the old nature are overcome by walking in the Spirit, verse 16. Being led of the spirit, verse 18 and living in the spirit verse 25. We are justified by grace. Kept by grace and Saved by grace. **Romans 10:4** Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to all that believe.

We are alive by regeneration – walk step by step. It's always a step at a time so we don't become conceited or provoking or envying each other.

GAL5:26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Titus 2:12-14 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

GAL6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

We can not out-run sin. GOD will never put you in a position you cannot handle.

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.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Galatians 5:16 – Read above

Look at job. Satan could not do anything to Job that GOD did not filter.

GAL6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

A serving Christian will help another Christian with their burden against spiritual failure and the temptation of sin.

GAL6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

To be a burden bearer you have to lay aside conceit and be above failure.

GAL6:4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

Instead of looking at what everyone else is doing, look at yourself and see your own accomplishments. Take comfort in what GOD has done in your life not what you have done. This is a way of laying aside self conceit.

GAL6:5 For every man shall bear his own burden.

A Christian, test himself by carrying his own load. This is not a contradiction to verse 2 because the reference of the word burden is a different meaning in the Greek. In the greek the word used is (phortion which means load or pack carried by marching soldiers). This is the burden Jesus assigned to his followers. Jesus said his burden is light.

Matthew 11:30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

GAL6:6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.

We that are believers are to support our pastor/teachers in your local church through financial or service support. The same way our pastor/teacher shares all good things in the word of GOD, we are to share all good things through our support.

GAL6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

You get to pick your harvest through the seeds we sow.

Job 4:8 Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.

Hosea 8:7 For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk; the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up.

GAL6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

When you spend money to indulge your flesh, you will reap a harvest that will go down the drain. You will also develop appetites that will be difficult to control. An example is spending money to buy cigarettes or spending that money to buy a concordance. The cigarettes will reap bad health and nothing to show for your money but the concordance will help to build your spiritual growth.

GAL6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Sometimes the harvest takes a long time. Paul is telling them don't be weary for in due season the harvest shall come.

GAL6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

We are suppose to be gracious and sacrificial service to the Saved and UnSaved, but especially to those of the faith. We are to help our Family needs first then your neighbor.

GAL6:11 Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand.

This verse lends one to believe that Paul's problem was an eyesight problem. This is why he wrote in large letters. He also makes mention in chapter 4:15 Also when you read Acts 23:1-5

Acts 23:1-5 And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day. And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth. Then said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law? And they that stood by said, Revilest thou God's high priest? Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people.

For Paul to not know this was the High-Priest his eye sight had to be bad or the High-Priest was not dressed in recognizable attire because of an illegal trial.

GAL6:12 As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

The Judisers insisted you must be circumcised for salvation.

GAL6:13 For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.

The Legalizers knew the offense of the Cross would be softened if openly proclaim by justification. Anything hung from a tree was a curse.

GAL6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

Paul is declaring his boasting to the Cross. To be hung from the Cross was an object of shame but to Paul it was an object of glory. Paul is saying rhetorically Christ crucified is the bases of his glory, World crucified is the result and we are crucified with Christ that brings the victory.

GAL6:15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Paul is saying circumcision or not it is the Law and no outward religious symbol or not will bring salvation. Only thing that matters is being a new creation / new birth.

GAL6:16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

This reference is the source of lots of mis-understanding. This verse is used to support covenant theology. They use this to support the view that the church is spiritual Israel and believers are spiritual Jews. Peace and mercy is given by GOD to the Gentiles and Jew that believe in Jesus Christ. Israel is mentioned 74x's in the new testament and each time is to reference national Israel.

GAL6:17 From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

Paul is talking about the stigmata that he has endured for Christ

GAL6:18 Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Christ is the only way to our salvation!

Conclusion:

I hope this study guide has been as enlightening to the reader as it was for me in putting it together. I want to thank the LORD for his grace and to help us glorify your name oh LORD in the remaining time on Earth.

Help us father to grow in grace in the LORD and Savior Jesus Christ.

To really do an in-depth study of the issues you must go through the book of Romans which is the definitive statement of Christian doctrine and Galatians is more a summary.

Galatians is the call out of religious externalism. The issue is not as simple as salvation by grace rather than the Law – Justification & Sanctification by Grace; Very disturbing Theologically to deal with.

Sanctification: The state of growing in divine grace as a result of Christian commitment after baptism or conversion.

Proselyte: A new convert to a doctrine or religion.

Judisers: Christians w/Jewish background. Believed that Gentiles needed to convert to Judaism if becoming saved by Christ

Online translation of the bible in Greek

http://www.scripture4all.org/OnlineInterlinear/Greek_Index.htm

Jot & Tittle: to learn more about this word and phrase, go to this link

http://www.bible-history.com/backd2/jot_tittle.html

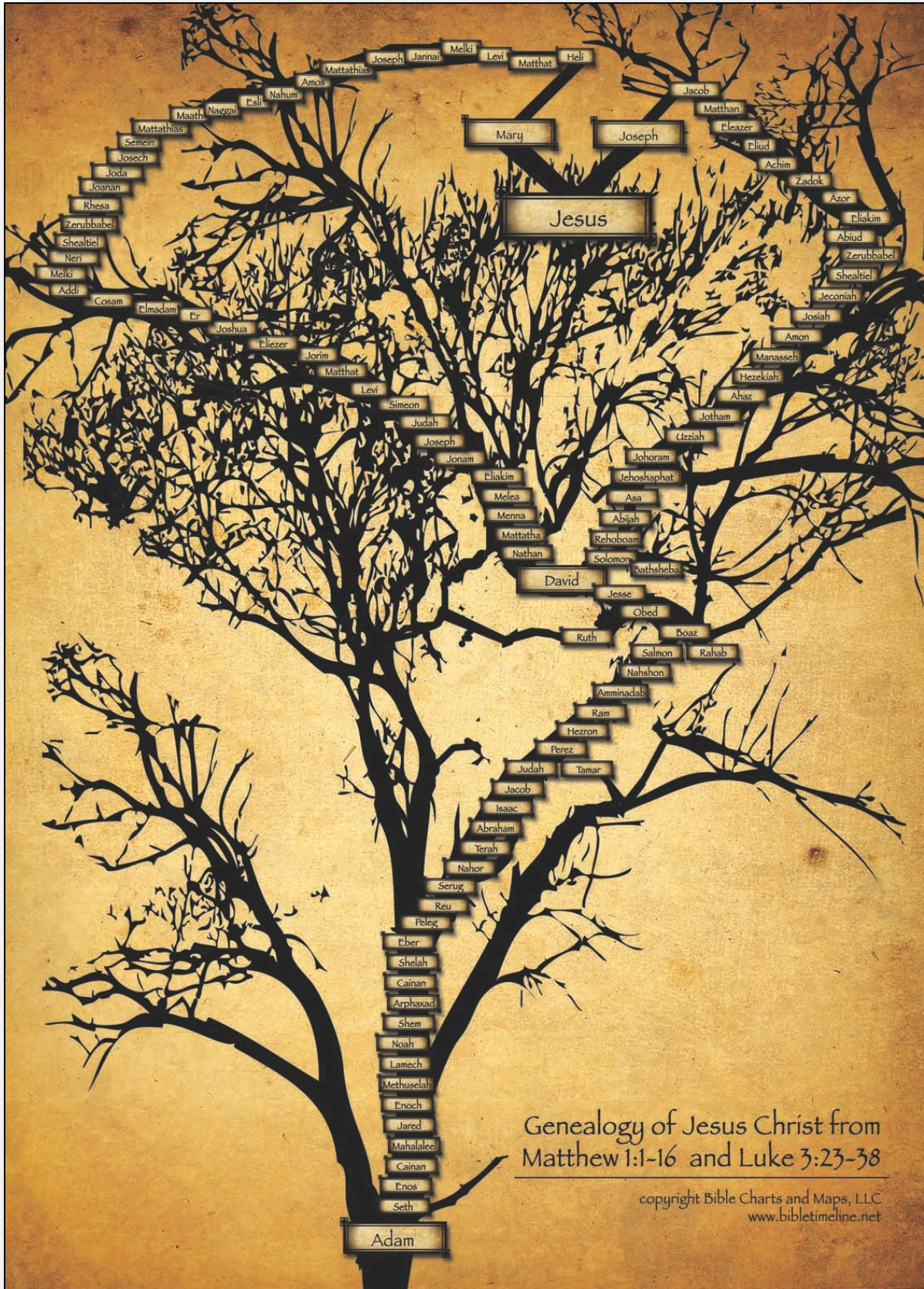


Map A

Paul's First Missionary Journey, with Barnabas to Cyprus and Asia Minor c AD46-48 and Its Sequel, the Council at Jerusalem c AD49

Map Reference A: <http://www.ccel.org/bible/phillips/CN092MAPS1.htm>

Chart showing Bloodline & Legal lineage of Jesus



Justification and Sanctification: What is the Difference?

Understanding the difference between justification and sanctification can be as important as understanding the difference between salvation and damnation. Rightly dividing between the two is of crucial importance. When you understand what they are, you can then draw a line in the sand and say, "This is what saves. This is not what saves."

Justification is the work of God where the righteousness of Jesus is reckoned to the sinner so the sinner is declared by God as being righteous under the Law ([Rom. 4:3](#); [5:1,9](#); [Gal. 2:16](#); [3:11](#)). This righteousness is not earned or retained by any effort of the saved. Justification is an instantaneous occurrence with the result being eternal life. It is based completely and solely upon Jesus' sacrifice on the cross ([1 Pet. 2:24](#)) and is received by faith alone ([Eph. 2:8-9](#)). No works are necessary whatsoever to obtain justification. Otherwise, it is not a gift ([Rom. 6:23](#)). Therefore, we are justified by faith ([Romans 5:1](#)).

Sanctification is the process of being set apart for God's work and being conformed to the image of Christ. This conforming to Christ involves the work of the person. But it is still God working in the believer to produce more of a godly character and life in the person who has already been justified ([Phil. 2:13](#)). Sanctification is not instantaneous because it is not the work of God alone. The justified person is actively involved in submitting to God's will, resisting sin, seeking holiness, and working to be more godly ([Gal. 5:22-23](#)). Significantly, sanctification has no bearing on justification. That is, even if we don't live a perfect life, we are still justified.

Where justification is a legal declaration that is instantaneous, sanctification is a process. Where justification comes from outside of us, from God, sanctification comes from God within us by the work of the Holy Spirit in accordance with the Bible. In other words, we contribute to sanctification through our efforts. In contrast, we do not contribute to our justification through our efforts.

Now, there is one more point of clarification. To sanctify also means to set apart for holy use. Therefore we can have verses that talk about us being sanctified already because God has set us apart for holy use.

- [John 10:36](#), "do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"
- [Rom. 15:16](#), "to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, that my offering of the Gentiles might become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit."
- [1 Cor. 1:2](#), "to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours."
- [1 Cor. 6:11](#), "And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God."
- [1 Tim. 4:4-5](#), "For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, if it is received with gratitude; 5 for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer."
- [Heb. 2:11](#), "For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren."

All that we need is given to us in Christ. So there is one sense in which we are not yet completely formed into the image of Christ (sanctification of being made like Jesus), yet in another sense we are because we are seen as "in Christ", set apart for holy use where all of where all our spiritual needs and purposes are met through Jesus.

Does this mean that those justified by grace can sin as much as they want?

The Scriptures teach us that we are to live holy lives and avoid sin ([Col. 1:5-11](#)). Just because we are saved and eternally justified before God ([John 10:28](#)), that is no excuse to continue in the sin from which we were saved. Of course, we all sin ([Rom. 3:23](#)). But the war between the saved and sin is continuous ([Rom. 7:14-20](#)) and it won't be until the return of Jesus that we will be delivered from this body of death ([Rom. 7:24](#)). To seek sin continually and use God's grace to excuse it later is to trample the blood of Christ underfoot ([Heb. 10:29](#)) and to reveal the person's true sinful, unsaved nature ([1 John 2:4](#); [2:19](#)). (Other verses worth checking out are: [Heb. 12:14](#); [1 Pet. 1:14-16](#); and [1 Pet. 2:21-22](#).)

[Romans 6:1-2](#) says, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer in it?"

[1 Thess. 4:7](#) says, "God has called us not for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification."

What the cults do with justification and sanctification

The cults consistently blur the meanings of the two terms and misapply the truths taught in God's word. The result is a theology of works righteousness, of earning their salvation which only leads to damnation. This is because by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified ([Gal. 2:16](#)). Man cannot contribute to his salvation ([Gal. 5:1-8](#)). Man is sinful and even his best deeds are stained and filthy before God ([Isaiah 64:6](#)). Therefore, making a person right before God can only be God's work ([Gal. 2:20](#)).

Typically, in cult theologies, a person is not justified (declared righteous in God's eyes) until the final day of judgment when his works are weighed and a reward is given or he is found worthy of his place with God. Thus, a person with this errant theology can not claim [1 John 5:13](#) as his own which says, "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God."

Contextually, "These things" refers to loving God, being obedient to Him, belief in Christ, and eternal life in Jesus. Therefore, [1 John 5:13](#) can be considered a test. If you are believing and doing the right things, then you will know if you have eternal life. Can a cultist know he has eternal life? No. He cannot. But a Christian can.

People in cults don't understand the difference between justification and sanctification. Therefore, they must depend upon a cooperative effort with God to have their sins forgiven which is, essentially, combining the filthy works of man ([Isaiah 64:6](#)) with the holy work of God. They don't mix. They can't. Hence, salvation is by grace through faith, alone. To believe anything else is to miss salvation.

Reference: <http://carm.org/justification-and-sanctification>

For the JEWS that don't believe Christ is their Messiah, please read

Isaiah 53, Psalm 22, Psalm 69, Last 3 chapters of Zechariah, Hebrews & Matthew. Once you have done so, see what the Holy Spirit reveals to your Heart.