

NEW TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

Lesson 30

Galatians – Part Three

Exploring The Options

The choice is either “Faith” or “Law” – “Trusting” or “Trying.”

A. The Galatians’ own experience (3:1-5)

1. Bewitched and bewildered (v. 1).
2. You began by trusting and end the same way (v. 2-3).
3. Was your suffering for nothing? (v. 4)
4. You receive the Spirit and power by trusting (v. 5).

B. Abraham’s example (3:6-9)

1. The principle: Genesis 15:6 (v. 6).
2. The application (v. 7).
3. The scope (v. 8).
4. The result (v. 9).

C. The curse of the Law (3:10-14)

1. The principle: Deuteronomy 27:26 (v. 10).
2. The application: Habakkuk 2:4 (v. 11).
3. The contrast: Leviticus 18:5 (v. 12).
4. The rescue: Deuteronomy 21:23 (v. 13).
5. The result (v. 14).

D. The priority of God’s promise (3:15-18)

1. An established covenant is dependable (v. 15).
2. God’s promise/covenant was to Abraham and to Christ (v. 16).
3. The Law 430 years later did not annul God’s promise (v. 17-18).

E. The purpose of the Law (3:19-25)

1. The Law was temporary and preparatory (v. 19).
2. The Law was a two-way arrangement; promise is one-way (v. 20).
3. The Law was not a bad law or against God's promise (v. 21).
4. The Law protected, prepared and pointed to Christ (v. 22-25).

F. You are sons and not slaves (3:26 – 4:11)

1. Your status "in Christ" by faith (3:26-29).
2. Emancipated heirs with full rights (4:1-7).
3. Do not return to slavery (4:8-11).

G. Appeal to maintain freedom (4:12-20)

1. Paul's own heart (v. 12-16).
2. His opponents' intent (v. 17-20).

H. Allegory of Sarah and Hagar (4:21 – 5:1)

1. Two actual mothers and two sons (v. 21-23).
2. These represent two covenants/arrangements (v. 24-27).
3. Apply this to yourselves (v. 28).
4. Therefore stand free! (5:1).