

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Paul's Letter to the

Galatians



**“O foolish
Galatians!”
- part 1**

**Galatians 3:1-14
08/19/2018**

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Paul's Letter to the

Galatians



Galatians: The Gospel As It Should Be (part 5)

“O foolish Galatians!” - part 1

Galatians 3:1-14

08/19/2018



**BITHYNIA &
PONTUS**

GALATIA

ASIA

CAPPADOCIA

Phrygia

Antioch

Lycaonia

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Pisidia

CILICIA

• Tarsus

LYCIA

PAMPHYLIA

• Antioch

SYRIA

CYPRUS

Mediterranean Sea

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Galatians 1:1-2:21 – The Gospel As It Should Be (REVIEW)

1. Paul's Greeting (vv. 1 – 5)

2. Paul's Warning (vv. 6 – 10) → <https://wp1.NLFJI.org/357>

**3. Paul's History validating His Call to Spread (vv. 11 – 24)
the Gospel among the Gentiles (<https://wp1.NLFJI.org/358>)**

**Timeline of Salvation (Acts 9) until Acts 15 Council Decision regarding
Gentiles coming to faith in Christ and NOT needing to follow the Israeli
Mosaic Law in order to be saved and to “keep their salvation”, etc.**

**4. Gal. 2:1-10 → after 14 years → The Church Council of Acts 15:
→ Same Gospel, Shared Gospel → for Jews and Gentiles
Peter (Cephas) – James (the elder) and John all of them confirmed that that
Gospel that Paul was preaching was the same as what they were preaching.
Also, confirmed that Gentiles did not need to become Jews in order to be
saved in Christ, nor to keep their salvation by following the Law of Moses.
→ Last week : (<https://wp1.NLFJI.org/360> - or <https://NLFJI.org/GAL>)**

This Week → Let's Stand as we Read → Galatians 3:1-14

Galatians

Justification by Faith

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?

² This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Chapter 3

³ Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

⁴ Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

⁵ Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?—

1. How are we “Born Again”, in Christ, SAVED in and by Christ?

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? ² This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? ⁴ Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? (Galatians 3:1-4)

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Are we SAVED:

By the Holy Spirit, in Christ, via our Faith/Trust in Christ?

We are Saved from our sins, from the penalty of our sins, from the Great White Throne Judgment of God, and from the Lake of Fire – by Christ Himself. We received this salvation by Repenting of our sins and TRUSTING in Christ and His Finished Work of Redemption.

1. How are we “Born Again”, in Christ, SAVED in and by Christ?

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? ² This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? ⁴ Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? (Galatians 3:1-4)

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Are we SAVED:

By the Holy Spirit, in Christ, via our Faith/Trust in Christ?

- OR -

**By seeking to follow and obey the Law of God, via Moses
(The Old Testament Law of Moses)?**

2. The deception of the Judaizers, the Hebrew Roots Movement Legalists was, that after we are legitimately “Born Again” in Christ, Saved, we can be Perfected (or keep our salvation and grow in perfection, in Christ) **by doing what? (Gal. 3:1-4)**

Religious SELF-Effort of Perfecting ourselves by following and obeying the LAW of Moses (God’s Law to the nation of Israel through Moses – the Old Testament Law). Self-Perfectionism

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? ² This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? ⁴ Have you suffered so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? (Galatians 3:1-4)

3. How does God work in the midst of His church, the body of Christ, the local church? Does He do that on the basis of our “obedience” to the Mosaic Law of God, or by what? (Gal. 3:5)

Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (Galatians 3:5)

This is a rhetorical question – that demands a common sense answer
→ It is by God’s Spirit that He does these miraculous works in the midst of the church, the local church family. **It is NEVER by our Own Works, our Conjuring Up enough Points by Obeying the Law of Moses to EARN the right to DEMAND God do Miracles among us.**

“God, OK, I’ve done all these awesome, loving, humble and great deeds – obeying the Law of Moses and the New Testament Laws in Christ, etc. – OK, where’s my Miracle?” – can you imagine anyone thinking this way? – example: today’s TV Preachers, maybe?

4. How does our Faith in Christ's Finished Work of Redemption relate to the Faith that Abraham had? (Gal. 3:6-9)

just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” ⁷ **Therefore know that ONLY those** who are of faith are sons of Abraham. ⁸ **And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the GOSPEL to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”** ⁹ **So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.**

There has never been a time, since the fall of Adam and Eve into sin in which humans could use “Religious Self-Effort” to be Justified before the Holy God of Creation. NEVER. It has always been TRUSTING in GOD in a Covenant Relationship with God. As Galatians and the book of Hebrews teaches – it was all based upon what Christ would eventually do: His Crucifixion/Death, Burial, and Resurrection ... His Full Redemptive Work ... humans receive Pardon by FAITH.

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As Galatians and the book of Hebrews teaches – it was all based upon what Christ would eventually do: His Crucifixion/Death, Burial, and Resurrection ... His Full Redemptive Work ... humans receive Pardon by FAITH. Faith, Personal Trust, Trusting Relationship, Covenant Relationship with God, based upon the coming Messiah. Justification was based upon God and His Provision for all sins – based upon Jesus Christ. Abraham BELIEVED → JUSTIFIED.

5. In relationship to redemption (being saved) – what is the real effect of the Law, the Mosaic Law of God? Why can't the Law, the Mosaic Law of God “redeem” us? (Gal. 3:10-12)

For as many as are OF the WORKS of the LAW are under the CURSE; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does NOT continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to DO them.”¹¹ But that NO ONE is justified by the law in the sight of God is EVIDENT, for “the just shall live by faith.”¹² Yet the law is NOT of faith, but “the man who does them shall LIVE by them.”

Folks who are “OF the WORKS of the LAW” ... those who think that by keeping, doing, obeying every one of the 300+ Laws of God, from God, through Moses to the nation of Israel (Exodus thru Deut.) ... that somehow by doing all those Laws, it would justify them before God, make them Holy, Acceptable, and Earn their Right to go to Heaven, etc. They were SORELY MISTAKEN, indeed.

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They were SORELY MISTAKEN, indeed. What the Old Testament teaches us, over and over again, that humans are sinners in need of salvation, in need of redemption. Seeking to Obey the Mosaic Law of God, was never intended to SAVE a person, nor to help a person have a relationship with God, etc. Abraham's life was the example for this. Trust and Obey. The Law just reveals how sinful we are.

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Romans 3:19-20 - Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become GUILTY before God. ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the KNOWLEDGE of SIN.

The LAW → Mouth Shut, Guilty, Sinner – and Knows it!

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James 2:10 - For whoever shall [*attempt to*] keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

Romans 3:23 - for ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

**If you have a problem with Romans 3:23 – go back to James 2:10
Attempting to Obey the Law for Justification will be a CURSE**

6. What did Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Israel, the Savior of the World do for us? (see Gal. 3:13-14)

Christ has REDEEMED us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),¹⁴ that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might RECEIVE the PROMISE of the Spirit through FAITH.

Romans 3:23-24 - for ALL have SINNED and fall short of the glory of God,²⁴ being JUSTIFIED FREELY by His grace through the REDEMPTION that is in Christ Jesus

Attempting to Obey the Law for Justification will be a CURSE. Jesus Christ became a CURSE for us – took on the CURSE of humanity → sin, pride, self-effort, rebellion against God, etc. He died upon the Cross (hanged on a tree) – God punished Christ for our sins, for our curse, in our place – instead of us.

6. What did Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Israel, the Savior of the World do for us? (see Gal. 3:13-14)

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Attempting to Obey the Law for Justification will be a CURSE. By Repenting of our sins, Repenting of our “Religious Self-Effort”, and Trusting in Jesus Christ and HIS Finished Work of Redemption we are SAVED, Born Again, BORN of the SPIRIT. We RECEIVE the PROMISE of the Indwelling Holy Spirit (ref. Ephesians 1:13-14)

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Romans 3:23-24 - for ALL have SINNED and fall short of the glory of God,²⁴ being JUSTIFIED FREELY by His grace through the REDEMPTION that is in Christ Jesus

Attempting to Obey the Law for Justification will be a CURSE. By Living for Christ, after we are saved, after that point in time that we became, Born Again, in Christ – we LIVE by Faith, by Trust, by Following God, in Christ, in a Relationship with Him. We should NOT live by rote/ritualistic Laws of Performance and robotic obedience.

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Christ has REDEEMED us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),¹⁴ that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might RECEIVE the PROMISE of the Spirit through FAITH.

Living for Christ, after we are saved, after that point in time that we became, Born Again, in Christ – we LIVE by Faith, by Trust, by Following God, in Christ, in a Relationship with Him. We should live by Loving Obedience – Obedience that springs forth from our Love for Him, our Trusting Relationship in Him, according to the Word of God. The LIFE of FAITH, in Christ – He is the ONE who Perfects us, who changes us, who transforms us, as we Trust Him. It is a Relationship, a Family Relationship – children of God & of Abraham

Summary – Galatians 3:1-14

Paul asks why the Galatians forgot about their beginnings in Christ.

Paul explains that God has **ALWAYS** had only **ONE** means of Salvation, since Adam and Eve fell into sins, and plunged the whole humans race into sin → **FAITH**. Faith in God, personal relational Trust in God and God's provision for Redemption (whatever it was).

Seeking to Obey the Law of Moses, the Old Testament Law of God to the nation of Israel will **never Justify nor has it ever Justified** anyone before God. Justification and a Life of Perfection by “**Self-Effort**” of Obeying the Law only leaves a person just like they were, **Cursed** and a **Sinner**. The Law only **Reveals** our Sin and our **need** for a Savior. **It points to Messiah**.

Jesus Christ is the **ONLY** one who can save us from our sins and the **CURSE** of the **LAW**. By personal **TRUST** in God, in Christ, are we saved, **REDEEMED** from the Curse of the Law. He is our Redeemer.