

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Galatians 3:10-29

Lesson 6

Cursed is the one who does not confirm all the words of this law. And all the people shall say, Amen! Thus we find the words of the people in Deuteronomy 27:26. The people's promise to obey the law – all of it. This lesson points out the futility of their promise as man cannot keep the whole law and that God's promise to save was never intended to be based on that requirement. Paul expresses a series of contrasts which we find throughout the letter, showing that man cannot keep the whole law. You will read the word *law* 13 times, contrasted with words like *faith* (9 times) and *promise(s)* (9 times). What a joy to know that we can rest in the other side of the contrasts presented – in *faith* and in God's *promise*.

DAY ONE: Read Galatians 3:10-29

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheets and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

- a. Galatians 3:10-29 has been divided into four paragraph divisions. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Galatians 3:10-14

Galatians 3:15-18

Galatians 3:19-25

Galatians 3:26-29

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheets.

After titling each section, record a title for Chapter 3.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in previous lesson: *God, Jesus, Spirit, law, faith, justified, live, and Gentiles*

New to this lesson: *promise(s)*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Galatians 3:10-29. Remember, as you mark the words *God, Jesus, Spirit, and Gentiles* to mark any personal pronouns (including the word *Seed*) that refer to them.

3. The term of conclusion *therefore* is used in verse 24. Mark that reference on your Observation Worksheet and record the conclusion that Paul made and what it was based upon.
4. Paul used the contrasting term *but* eight times in this section (verses 11,12,16,18,20,22,23, and 25). Mark each reference on your Observation Worksheets. Choose one and record what is being contrasted.
5. Choose one of the key words from question 2 and record, by making a list, what the text reveals.

DAY TWO: Read Galatians 3:10-12

1. In these verses, Paul contrasted living under the *law* with the principle of *faith*. What do you learn in these verses about living under the *law*?
2. Because Christians are not under the Mosaic Law, but under grace, there is a danger for some believers to think they have license to live to please themselves. This always culminates in indulgence of sin. What does Romans 6:14,15 say about this?
 - a. Consider how Titus 2:11-14 amplifies this as you write verse 12 here phrase by phrase.
 - 1.) Read verse 12 again. How does this rule out the thought of us living to please ourselves?
 - 2.) Having received the grace of God through faith in Christ, how then are we to live according to Titus 2:13,14?

- a.) We don't want to confuse doing *good works* out of love for the Lord, because of what He has done for us, with doing *good works* to obtain salvation. Explain the difference. Share an example if you desire.

3. What insight did you receive from Galatians 3:10-12?

DAY THREE: Read Galatians 3:13-18

1. Summarize from these verses what you learn about the following:

Christ

promises

covenant

2. Because of Jesus' finished work on the cross, the believer has both *blessings* and *promises*. How does this minister to you?

Challenge: Identify the Old Testament quotations in Galatians 3:10-13 and give their references.

- a. How do these (see challenge question) prove the Old Testament promised salvation by faith?

DAY FOUR: Read Galatians 3:19-25

Along with the New King James Version, use the following translation from J.B. Phillips to give you further understanding of verses 19-25.

Where then lies the point of the Law? It was an addition made to underline the existence and extent of sin until the arrival of the "seed" to whom the promise referred. The Law was inaugurated in the presence of angels and by the hand of a human intermediary. The very fact that there was an intermediary is enough to show that this was not the fulfilling of the promise. For the promise of God needs neither angelic witness nor human intermediary but depends on him alone.

Is the Law then to be looked upon as a contradiction of the promise? Certainly not, for if there could have been a law which gave men spiritual life then law would have produced righteousness (which would have been, of course, in full harmony with the purpose of the promise). But, as things are, the scripture has all men "imprisoned", because they are found guilty by the Law, that to men in such condition might come to release all who believe in Jesus Christ.

Before the coming of faith we were all imprisoned under the power of the Law, with our only hope of deliverance the faith that was to be shown to us. Or, to change the metaphor, the Law was like a strict governess in charge of us until we went to the school of Christ and learned to be justified by faith in him. Once we had that faith we were completely free from the governess's authority.

1. What do these verses teach concerning the purpose of the law?
 - a. When used as it was intended, the law is not bad, but good. What are the good purposes of the law?
 - 1.) When does the law become bad?

Challenge: Research and explain the meaning of the word *tutor* as it is used in Galatians 3:24,25.

2. Galatians 3:23 in the New Century Version reads: *Before this faith came, we were all held prisoners by the law. We had no freedom until God showed us the way of faith that was coming.* What does this mean in your life today?
3. What does the J.B. Phillips say that enhances the meaning of these verses?

DAY FIVE: Read Galatians 3:26-29

1. Record what this paragraph reveals about those who are *in Christ Jesus*.
 - a. Rejoice in the awesome truth of John 1:12 as you write it phrase by phrase.
 - 1.) Do the same with 1 John 3:1.
 - a.) Record some of your thoughts as you reflect upon these two verses.
 - b. Share some of the privileges you have as a *son* (daughter) of God.
2. Galatians 3:27 reveals that the believer has *put on Christ*. What is our response to be according to Romans 13:14?
 - a. How, practically, do you *make no provision for the flesh*?
 - 1.) Why do you think it is important to first, *put on the Lord Jesus Christ*, before you *make no provision for the flesh*?
3. In your own words, write the truths of Galatians 3:28.
 - a. Why is this important to know?
4. Read Galatians 3:29. What does Romans 4:14 add to this?
 - a. We began this section with the statement that we are *sons of God* (verse 26). We end it with the statement that we are *heirs* (verse 29). Some *sons* are written out of their earthly father's will. What does it mean to you to know that you are an *heir* to the promises of God?

DAY SIX: Review Galatians 3:10-29

1. Share a word, phrase, or verse from this passage that especially spoke to you and tell why.

2. How do these verses reinforce the futility of attempting to keep the Mosaic Law in order to obtain salvation?

3. Through faith in Christ we have been set free from the bondage of the law. How are you using your freedom?
 - a. Why can a misunderstanding of the purpose of the law bring a person under bondage?

4. In what way has this lesson brought you a greater awareness of what Jesus Christ has done for you?

*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear,
but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."
- Romans 8:14,15*

