

# BOOK OF GALATIANS

## *“Promises Spoken”*

Scripture Reading: GALATIANS 3:15-18

- ) **SLIDES 1-6**. Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDES 7-8**. Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) **SLIDE 9**. Today we continue in our expository study of the Book of GALATIANS. This is message #22. I have titled today’s message *“Promises Spoken.”*
- ) In today’s text, Paul is going back to his lesson which he spoke in verses 6-9 about Abraham and his belief in God’s promise. And Paul wants to make sure that his readers know that the promises spoken by God to Abraham still stand.
- ) **SLIDE 10**. To do so, he uses a human comparison in v15.
- ) Let me use the same analogy here this morning. Story time with Pastor Mike. **SLIDE 11**. As Paul says, *“it has been ratified, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it.”*
- ) In these four verses, Paul uses the word *“covenant”* 2x, and the word *“promise”* 4x. He uses those two words interchangeably. What is a promise and what is a covenant? **SLIDE 12**. Are they the same thing? Webster. Again, I will say that Paul is using both these words to convey the same idea.
- ) Let’s take those two definitions, combine them, and then place them in the context of how Paul is speaking about the promises spoken by God to Abraham.
- ) **SLIDE 13**. A formal, solemn, and legally binding agreement (by God) that gives the person to whom it is made (Abraham) a right to expect the performance of a specified act (*“and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing”*).

- ) Paul wants the Galatians (and us) to know that the promises spoken by God with Abraham have not and will not ever be broken, cancelled, or nullified.
- ) **SLIDE 14.** And specifically, in v17, the Law did not break, cancel, or nullify the promises spoken by God to Abraham.
- ) Mike, did the Law have any effect on the promise? And what was its purpose? Great questions. That will be next week's message when we move on to verses 19-29.
- ) **SLIDE 15.** And while we're on that topic of future messages, look at v16. We'll talk more about this verse when we get to chapter four.
- ) The conclusion of these four verses today is this: the promises spoken by God with Abraham have not and will never be broken, cancelled, or nullified by anything or anyone, including the addition of the Law 430 years later.
- ) Isn't it wonderful to know that every promise God makes to us through His Word will never be broken? God cannot break His promise. If He did break His promise, He would be a liar and then He wouldn't be God. For the remainder of our time this morning, I want to cover eight promises that the Word of God makes with us.
- ) **SLIDE 16.** Regarding our **CONDITION.** We are all sinners, and the wages of those sins is death. We have been cursed by our disobedience to the laws of God. We are condemned to an eternity in hell. Yes, this is a promise.
- ) **SLIDE 17.** Regarding our **CONVERSION.** Death no longer has a hold on us. We have been set free. Our chains are gone. If the Son has set us free, then we are free indeed.
- ) **SLIDE 18.** Regarding our **SIN.** Forgiven. The one barrier between us and a restored relationship with God is our sin. and that sin has been forgiven—yesterday's sins, today's sins, and tomorrow's sins.

- ) **SLIDE 19.** Regarding our **ASSURANCE.** Can we lose what we have? Never. We are safely in the hands of the One who saved us. And we have the Holy Spirit who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance.
- ) **SLIDE 20.** Regarding our **IDENTITY.** Whose are we people? We are kingdom children. We have been adopted into His family. We are more than conquerors. Our identity is with Christ and not with the world.
- ) **SLIDE 21.** Regarding our **PURPOSE.** We were created for good works. Jesus says in JOHN 14:12 that we will do greater works than the works He performed. There is no greater work than to share the gospel with another and watch the transforming power of the Holy Spirit go to work.
- ) **SLIDE 22.** Regarding our **CIRCUMSTANCES.** We are still in this world and it's getting darker every day. But God will use each and every circumstance that happens in our lives and use that circumstance, in some way, for our good. Never saying that the circumstance is good, but that the result of that circumstance will make us more Christ-like.
- ) **SLIDE 23.** Regarding our **WALK.** Jesus will never leave us or forsake us. He has given us the Holy Spirit who will guide us and correct us for the remainder of our lives.
- ) God gave a promise to Abraham about 4000 years ago. And His Word gives us promises today. And we just covered 7 of them. Aren't they wonderful? In a day and a time when the world is against the Christian, we need to focus on what we have in our favor. Our identity is in Christ.
- ) **SLIDE 24.** JOHN 15:18-19. Consider it pure joy my brothers and sisters in Christ when the world hates you. Because that's when you know you are in a right relationship with Jesus. Decide this day who's side you want to be on. The side of Jesus or the side of the world.

- ) **SLIDE 25.** JOHN 16:34. Read the Book of REVELATION. All those on the side of Jesus win. We may experience tribulation, but we will overcome.
- ) God made a promise with Abraham about 4000 years ago. He kept that promise. God makes many more promises with us, as believers, through His Word. And nothing or no one can ever of will ever nullify those promises either. God makes the promise. And He will keep them.

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