

# BOOK OF GALATIANS

## *“To Lead Us to Christ”*

Scripture Reading: GALATIANS 3:19-25

- ) **SLIDES 1-6.** Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDES 7-9.** Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) **SLIDE 10.** Today we continue in our expository study of the Book of GALATIANS. This is message #24. I have titled today’s message *“To Lead Us to Christ.”* (v24)
- ) This morning we will look at the second and third purposes of the Law concerning transgressions and finish answering the question: *“Why the Law then?”* But first I want to uncover three more truths we will find in verse 19.
- ) **SLIDE 11.** Let’s talk about *“ordained through angels”* first. Paul is saying that the Law was given (ordained) by angels. I thought God gave Moses the Law on Mount Sinai? Let’s look at three more verses of Scripture which support Paul’s claim.
- ) **SLIDE 12.** HEBREWS 2:2-3a.
- ) **SLIDE 13.** ACTS 7:53.
- ) **SLIDE 14.** DEUT 33:2. Yes, God did give Moses the Law but as we can see, there were angels present when this occurred.
- ) **SLIDE 15.** Let’s talk about *“the agency of a mediator”* next. Who was the mediator between God and the Israelites? Moses.
- ) **SLIDE 16.** LEVITICUS 26:46.
- ) **SLIDE 17.** And lastly let’s talk about *“the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.”* Who was the promise of blessing made to? Abraham. Who would that seed eventually be? Jesus Christ.

- ) **SLIDE 18.** GALATIANS 3:16. And we will talk more about this “seed” when we get to chapter four.
- ) **SLIDE 19.** Let’s do a short recap of what we have learned so far in this Book of GALATIANS. False teachers are infiltrating the newly founded churches at Galatia. These false teachers are called Judaizers. They are mixing the Mosaic Law with faith in Christ. They are telling the new Christian converts that circumcision is necessary for their salvation.
- ) Paul is furious with these false teachers. So much so, he pronounces an anathema in chapter one on those proliferating this false teaching. May they be eternally condemned.
- ) BGCC, I can’t stress enough how important this is. So many Christians believe everyone is OK just because at one point in time they made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ. But there is an anathema, a condemnation, pronounced on those who teach such heresy. And when the blind lead the blind, what happens? Folks, this is serious stuff. Get the gospel right.
- ) On the other hand, he is astonished at how quickly the new converts in Galatia have been so easily bewitched by these imposters.
- ) Paul lays down some gospel truth in these first three chapters. Christianity and being a Christ follower is that we are saved through faith in Jesus Christ and that faith alone. We are saved through our faith in the promise of Christ just like Abraham was saved through his faith in God’s promise to him.
- ) **SLIDE 20.** He already told us in verses 1-5 that the Law cannot save us. He already told us in verses 10-14 that the Law only brings a curse to those who try to keep it. And he already told us in verses 15-18 that the Law does not and will never nullify the promise God spoke to Abraham. And in verse 21 he already told us that the Law could make one righteous, then righteousness would be by the Law.

- ) Now here we are towards the end of chapter three and Paul is still arguing his case. And he wants to make sure the people understand that even though obedience to the Law does not earn one's salvation, the Law does serve a purpose.
- ) In verse 19, Paul asks an anticipated question: "*Why the Law then?*" Last week I said that concerning transgressions, the Law served three main purposes.
- ) **SLIDE 21.** "*Why the Law then?*" Purpose #1. The Law provided God's people with the knowledge of their sin. Explain prescription bottles. We have now been warned. We now know the consequences.
- ) Let's talk about the second purpose of the Law concerning transgressions. And we will find that in v24.
- ) **SLIDE 22.** Here is v24 from the NASB and from the KJV. There is one word here that interests me. And that word is "*schoolmaster.*" The NASB uses the word "*tutor*" and the NIV uses the word "*guardian.*"
- ) **SLIDE 23.** Webster.
- ) For me, there is a major difference. To me, one is kind and gentle (tutor) the other (schoolmaster) is disciplinary, strict, authoritative, but still giving direction.
- ) **SLIDE 24.** Let's look at v24 again. How does the Law serve this second and third purposes concerning transgressions by discipline and direction?
- ) **SLIDE 25.** Purpose #2. The Law lets us know (discipline) that we **FAIL** in our obedience to the laws of God.
- ) There is a standard set by God. It's called the Law. And now the Law, our schoolmaster, has done its job in the area of discipline. It has let us know that we have fallen short.
- ) **SLIDE 26.** And everyone is without excuse because the Law of God has been written on the heart of every human being.

- ) Unfortunately, even as Christians, our human condition continually makes sure we come up short and fail to keep those standards (ROMANS 7 - wretched).
- ) Has our conscience convicted us of our wrongdoing, and, if so, what are we willing to do with that conviction? Do we want to totally ignore that conviction or do we somehow want to seek a solution and make it right? Because, unfortunately, we will never cease to sin. That leads us to “*directional*.”
- ) **SLIDE 27**. Purpose #3. The Law **LEADS** us to Christ (directional) as the only true solution to our disobedience.
- ) **SLIDE 28**. The ABCs of salvation. A – Admit you are a sinner. B – Believe that Jesus is who He says He is, that He died for your sins, rose from the dead, and that you trust in him alone for your salvation. C – Confess your sins.
- ) You will never understand why you need a Savior until you realize that you have violated the laws of God. The second purpose of the Law.
- ) The world believes there are many, many, many solutions to their sin problem. They believe they can fix their problem on their own. They believe good works will make it right. They believe attending church will make it right. They believe giving to charity will make it right. They believe being a good dad or mom or husband or wife will make it right.
- ) And that list goes on and on. And that is what the world wants us to believe, right? Satan is incredibly good at deception.
- ) Does your conviction of your sin lead you to Christ or to some other solution that will never work?
- ) **SLIDE 29**. The Law is there to convict us of our shortcomings and then direct us to Christ. And once we have been directed to Christ, v25 tells us that we are no longer under the schoolmaster. The schoolmaster has accomplished its purpose. It has directed us to the only solution to our problem.

- ) We all have a sin problem. We have all fallen short of the glory of God. The Law (our schoolmaster) reminds us of that every day.
- ) **SLIDE 30**. Why the Law then? Again, the three main purposes of the Law concerning transgressions.
- ) Remember, Jesus Christ is not one of many solutions. That is the Oprah Winfrey school of theology. He is the only solution. And now faith has come. We are now under Christ.
- ) So, I ask. Has your schoolmaster disciplined you and directed you to Christ today?

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