



Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

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Gospel: The Promise & The Law

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SCRIPTURE

Galatians 3:15-25

15 Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. 16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ. 17 What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. 18 For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

19 Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. 20 A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one.

21 Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. 22 But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

23 Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. 24 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

ENGAGE

How good does a person have to be to go to heaven?

How would most North Americans answer that question?

DISCUSS

1. Read Galatians 3:15-25. What strikes you from this passage?
2. God’s promise of salvation in us was fulfilled by Christ alone. In what ways other than Christ do people believe salvation comes? (good works, going to church, etc.) Have you ever believed this? When did you come to see the truth?

3. God's promises rely on grace. They are never contingent on what we do. What is the good news about this truth?
4. The Old Testament actually points to Christ. Can you think of some ways this is true? (sacrificial system, prophecy, etc.)
5. The law was given to help us see our need for a savior. God's rule is that we have to be perfect to live in His presence. Therefore, we have to know the standard and how far from it we are. Read Romans 3:23 and discuss how it applies to this truth.
6. The law is not contrary to the Promise of God (salvation in Christ), it is complimentary. Can you explain that?
7. If we can't earn our salvation, why would we work so hard for it. We should accept in and relax in our salvation. Will people likely do less for Christ if this happens, or more?

YOUR NEXT STEP

Learn who Christ is, what He has done for us, and fall in love with Him. Do that by spending time every day in God's word.