



Galatians Chapter 3

Now that we're ready to move into chapter 3 of the book of Galatians I want everyone who is tuning into this broadcast who has not seen our study on the first two chapters of the book of Galatians to know and understand that you will most likely not be able to understand chapter 3 with out understanding chapters one and two of this book.

We covered some very important ground over the last couple of weeks so that we would be able to understand the rest of the book of Galatians, and if you are not armed with that knowledge then I think it's fair to say.. that you will not understand what we're going to study here today, nor with you be equipped to understand the rest of the writings of the Apostle Paul through out the New Testament writings

So once again I strongly urge anyone who has not already been studying this book with us to go back to chapter one of this study and begin at the beginning.. and you can find those studies at our website at HolyImpactMinistries.com, simply go to our "7th Day Sabbath" page or you can find them on our "H.I.M. Bible Studies" page. Some of what we've already studied will be presented again here this morning, but most of it will not.

With all of that being said, I want to just take a few minutes and recap what we already know about Paul's letter to the church at Galatia.

First of all we know that the church of Galatia is under attack from the Pharisees and many of the die hard Jewish leadership that came from Jerusalem also known as "The Circumcision Group". And we've already learned that many of these false teachers that Paul calls "False Brothers" in Galatians chapter 2 verse 4 are of this same "Circumcision Group" that were trying to force the New Christian converts into being circumcised, telling them that they could not be saved unless they were.

Paul knew that you could not force someone to be circumcised any more than you could force someone to be baptized, and he knew that both circumcision and baptism are only valid if done because a persons heart has led them to the obedience of faith that he speaks about in Romans chapter 1.

We also learned about the meeting that Paul is talking about in his letter to the Galatians in

chapter 1. This meeting was all about the meeting that he had with James the brother of Yahshua in Jerusalem covered in Acts chapter 15.

This meeting was all about the judgment that James made concerning “circumcision” and whether or not this “circumcision group” could force a new convert to be circumcised or not.

We also learned through the scripture that James judgment in Acts chapter 15 was not against circumcision, but rather it was for circumcision, and this is why Paul circumcises Timothy before delivering the Judgment from James to all of the Churches.. and again we can find this in Acts chapter 16 verses 3 and 4.

All through not only the book of Galatians but most of the writings of the Apostle Paul.. we see Paul preaching and teaching against the man made, man created, man fabricated oral laws of the Pharisees, and we covered this in some detail in our study in the book of Acts if you've been following us on Wednesday nights.

The “Oral Laws” of the Pharisees who ran the many Synagogues that were in and around Jerusalem were simply man made laws that were attached to the Torah and Gods Laws by the Jewish leadership of that time. And we know that this angered our Messiah time and time again all through out his ministry:

Mat 15:8 "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;

Mat 15:9 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

The problem is that these “man made” laws became part of the original law of God, and so when the Pharisees spoke about the “Law” or the “Torah” they were talking about their man made laws mixed in with Gods Torah. You see to them, their man made laws were every bit divine and inherent as Gods Law.

So what we have here are actually two very different laws. One of them is Gods law only, and the other one is the laws of men mixed in with Gods law. And with that being said.. once again I would submit to you that understanding the culture of that time is essential to understanding the proper context of what is being said in any given scripture.

What Paul is trying to get through to us is that Gods law is designed to convict us by defining what sin is. Gods law shows us that we are all sinners, and thus it can not be a means of salvation. Gods laws points us to Salvation, and it keeps us safe from sin by exposing it.

We serve the law of God because of our salvation, not to earn our salvation, once again what is the Biblical definition of the “love of God”?

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments

are not burdensome.

Further more we know from scripture that anyone who says they know him and does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1Jn 2:4 Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

Yahshua told us very clearly that if we loved him we would keep his commandments in John 14:15, and we know that for those of us who have been freed from the wickedness of the world and then have turned right around and gone back into our sin, it would have been better for us to have never known the truth of our Messiah's salvation:

2Pe 2:20 For if, after they have escaped the defilement's of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

2Pe 2:21 For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.

2Pe 2:22 What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

And once again we see this same truth found in the book of Hebrews chapter 10:

Heb 10:26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

Heb 10:27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Heb 10:28 Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.

Heb 10:29 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?

Heb 10:30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people."

Heb 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

And yet today's modern day Pharisees continue to preach and teach the false man made, man created, man fabricated doctrine of "Once Saved Always Saved" which is nothing more than a doctrine of devils... it is my friends a "Do As Thou Wilt" religion that comes right out of the

Devils bible.

So armed with this information, lets continue our study in Galatians chapter 3.

Gal 3:1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified.

Gal 3:2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith?

Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Gal 3:4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

Once again Paul is simply saying that the written law alone with out faith.. can not lead us to salvation. You can not obey the law with out faith in the Messiah and think that you're going to make it into the Kingdom of Heaven. What did our own Messiah tell us in Matthew 7:21.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Mat 7:22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'

Mat 7:23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

Once again we do not keep the law of God to be saved.. we keep the laws of God because we are saved, and we know full well what the biblical definition of the love of God is.. and that is that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not a burden to us.

Gal 3:5 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—

Gal 3:6 just as Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"?

Gal 3:7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.

Gal 3:8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed."

Gal 3:9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Alright lets stop right here. Remember Abraham was in the faith before he was circumcised. Abraham was not circumcised until he was well into his 90's. Circumcision is not what causes your faith.. faith is what causes you to be circumcised. And remember it was because of Abraham's faith that he kept the laws of God.. how do we know this? All we have to do is read the first half of the book:

*Gen 26:4 I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed,
Gen 26:5 because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."*

So let us remember that it was because Abraham obeyed the voice of God, and kept his charge, his commandments, his statutes, and his laws that God found favor in Abraham and made him the father of all nations. So once again... lets keep what Paul is saying in the proper context. Paul was simply saying that it was not just works alone that saved Abraham. With out faith.. Abraham would have never kept the laws of God.

Gal 3:10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."

Stop right here... I can not tell you how many times I have heard people take this scripture out of context and use it as their candy stick scripture to try to prove to me that Gods laws are a curse.

Paul is clearly not saying that Gods laws are a curse.. what he is saying is that "All who rely on the works of the law" are still under the curse of the law which was what? It was death, and we spoke about this before but for the sake of the new viewer we know that the biblical definition of sin is the transgression of the law:

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1Jn 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

And what is the wages of sin?:

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

So in other words if you are still relying on the law with out faith in the Messiah.. you are still under the curse of the law. You see it's all about what you rely on. Are you relying on the law alone with out faith? Because if you are then you are still under the curse of the law.

For those of us who have faith in the Messiah Yahshua.. the curse of the law has been removed, and once again what was the "curse of the law" it was death, but our Messiah removed the death penalty from the law so if we have faith that death penalty also known as the wages of sin have been paid in full.

So what Paul is saying is if you rely on the law apart from faith.. then you're still under the

written law which has the death penalty still intact. But for those of us who have faith in our Messiah, that death penalty has been paid for. You see Yahshua did not come to abolish the law or the prophets.. he simply came to fulfill the "Penalty" of the law.. not the law itself.

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

And what was it that our Messiah said again in Matthew 5:17?

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Mat 5:18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Mat 5:19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Notice that Yahshua our Messiah says that not even the crossing of a "T" or the dotting of an "i" would pass away from the law until Heaven and Earth pass away and all things are accomplished. Heaven and Earth are still here and all things have not been accomplished as of yet.

Notice also in Matthew 5:19 that we're told that anyone who relaxes the least of his commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of Heaven, but the one who does them will be called great in the kingdom of Heaven...

Notice he does not say that you will be in the Kingdom of Heaven.. only that this is what those in Heaven will say about you. And once again in verse 20 he clearly tells us that if our righteousness does not exceed that of the Pharisees we will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

So how do we exceed the righteousness of the Pharisees.. what did the Pharisees do? They kept the man made, man created, man fabricated doctrines of men..

Mat 15:8 "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;

Mat 15:9 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Notice what Paul is in Galatians 3:11:

Gal 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous

shall live by faith."

So once again Paul is trying to tell the Church at Galatia that you can not keep the law apart from faith in the Messiah. This circumcision group was trying to lead them back under the written law with out faith, and so Paul is trying to turn the ship around again and point them to faith in the Messiah. You can not rely on the law to save you with out faith. Faith which is the love and trust in Messiah is what leads us to keep his laws, commandments, precepts, and his appointments. With out faith in Yahshua you are still under the curse of the law that Yahshua paid in full.

In other words we are to keep Gods laws by "Faith" not by "Justification". The only way not to be under the curse of the law is to come into the "Faith" and accept Gods grace and the work that his son did at the cross. Then and only then is the penalty for breaking the law removed.. (also known as the curse of the law) "curse" and "Penalty" are synonymous and mean the same thing in this context. And this is why Paul told us in Romans 3:31 that we are to uphold the law:

Rom 3:31 Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

He also told us that those who do not keep the law can not please God and that they are of a carnal mind:

Rom 8:7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Paul is simply saying the same thing his Messiah said:

Luk 11:28 But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

And even James the brother of our Messiah says the same thing:

Jas 1:25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

So let their be no doubt in our minds that Paul is not preaching against the perfect law of God.. the law that even Paul says is holy and righteous and good:

Rom 7:12 So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Remember.. it is the unbeliever that is still under the law of sin and death. The Law from the beginning was all about blessing and curses my friends:

Deu 11:26 "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse:

Deu 11:27 the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today,

Deu 11:28 and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

The curse of the law has been removed for those of us who have faith in the Messiah, so then.. all that is left are the blessings of the law for we who believe and have the obedience of faith that even Paul himself talks about in Romans chapter 1 verse 1.

Once again my friends.. Yahshua Jesus our Messiah did not come to do away with the law or the prophets just as he said in Matthew 5:17, he came to pay the penalty for breaking the law which was also known as the curse of the law. The authority of the law has been transferred to our Messiah. The Law no longer judges us only our Messiah can (and will) judge us.

Lets continue:

Gal 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."

Gal 3:12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."

Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

Gal 3:14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Once again.. the law apart from faith can not save anyone because with out faith it still carries the curse of death for breaking the law. Our Messiah redeemed us from that curse so that only the blessings would remain for those of us who love God and keep his commandments, and his commandments are not a burden to us. For this my friends... is the love of God.

Lets continue:

Gal 3:15 To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified.

So Paul makes the point here that even man made covenants can not be annulled or added to once they have been ratified... so then... how much more the covenants of God?

You see what was the “New Covenant” all about?:

Jer 31:33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

You see the “New Covenant” was only made with the “House of Israel” and it was clearly stated that God would write his laws in their hearts and in their minds, and nothing has changed from the Torah (or Old Testament) to the New Testament:

Heb 10:15 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

Heb 10:16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"

Heb 10:17 then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

You see it's all about the nations being grafted into the Olive Tree that is the “House of Israel” and being part of Gods only chosen people found anywhere in the 66 books of what we now know as our Bibles today. And it's all about his laws being written in our hearts and in our minds.. not nailed to some tree somewhere as many of today's lost denominational charters of men wrongly proclaim.

Gal 3:16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offspring's," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ.

Paul is telling us that through our Messiah we are heirs to the promise of Abraham:

Gal 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Gal 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

What Paul is telling us here is that through our Messiah the Torah is being fulfilled. There are only one set of laws for both the Jew and the Gentile, not two separate laws and two separate churches:

Num 15:14 And if a stranger is sojourning with you, or anyone is living permanently among you, and he wishes to offer a food offering, with a pleasing aroma to the LORD, he shall do as you do.

Num 15:15 For the assembly, there shall be one statute for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you, a statute forever throughout your generations. You and the sojourner shall be alike before the LORD.

Num 15:16 One law and one rule shall be for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you."

And if we want to go even farther back than this we can:

Exo 12:48 If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised. Then he may come near and keep it; he shall be as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it.

Exo 12:49 There shall be one law for the native and for the stranger who sojourns among you."

The sojourner also known as the "Gentile" shall be as a native of the land. You and the sojourner shall be alike before Yahovah our Father. One law for both, and nothing has changed my friends to this very day, and through our Messiah once again... the nations can be grafted into the "House of Israel" just as they were from the very beginning.

Most people believe that the Gentiles were not grafted in until Peter went to Cornelius in the New Testament but this is again another false doctrine of demons that's been cast like a net over the ignorant professing Christian who's never read the scriptures for themselves.

The Israelite's were to be a light on a hill that were to attract all the nations of the world to them because of their blessing from God. They were to make the nations of the world jealous so that they would want to come and to be grafted into the family of Yahovah God our Father... but they kept the law as if it were works instead of keeping it by faith just as Paul tells us in the book of Romans:

Rom 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith;

Rom 9:31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.

Rom 9:32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,

Rom 9:33 as it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

There is so much to know and to understand when it comes to the book of Galatians and the rest of the writings of the Apostle Paul, and we will sift through these things together until we've come to an understanding of the truth... but for now let us rest assured.. that the laws of God are far from dead, and no where is it written that Gods laws are or ever will be... nailed to the cross.

Take these things to your prayer closet, and test them in the fire of prayer. Face Jerusalem and bow your knee in prayer and ask him in the name of Yahshua Hamashiach to give you the discernment to understand these things... and he will give it to you.