


BIBLE STUDY
 New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
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Galatians - Freedom in Christ 1

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Galatians 3:1-14
"Faith or Observance of the Law"

TOPICS

- Believe
- Bible
- Blessing
- Faith
- Gospel
- Holy Spirit
- Jesus Christ
- Law
- Miracles
- Questions
- Righteousness
- Suffering

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Galatians 3:1-14
"Faith or Observance of the Law"

OPEN IT QUESTIONS

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Open It Questions

1. When was the last time you were sarcastic to someone?

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Open It Questions

2. If you were trying to convince a friend to believe in what you were saying, what tone of voice would you use?

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Open It Questions

3. If someone close to you displayed a lack of knowledge about a subject you knew well, what would you do about it?

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Introduction

With the heartfelt words affirming his personal commitment to the Galatians, Paul spoke of his ministry with his Galatian friends. He remembered how clearly he had shared the message and how openly they had responded. Since they had been launched so beautifully in the Christian faith, how could they have run aground so quickly?

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Introduction

Paul was convinced that those who influenced the Galatians acted like friendly harbor pilots. They promised to guide the Galatians' faith by adding to their understanding of Christ an "essential component" of the law. But, instead, these pilots put the Galatian ship of faith in great danger.

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Introduction

Paul was adamant in his response to all of this. Whatever role the law might play in a believer's life, it did not add to or improve the salvation provided freely in Christ. To be acceptable to God, we must be justified by faith in Jesus Christ alone. The point needed to be hammered home, and Paul did this repeatedly in this letter.

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Read: Galatians 3:1-14

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EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

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Explore It Questions

4. Why did Paul scold the Galatians? ([3:1](#))

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4. Why did Paul scold the Galatians? (3:1)

Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. (3:1 NLT)

Explore It Questions

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5. What rhetorical question did Paul ask? (3:2)

Explore It Questions

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5. What rhetorical question did Paul ask? (3:2)

Let me ask you this one question: **Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses?** Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. (3:2 NLT)

Explore It Questions

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Explore It Questions

6. How did Paul expect the Galatians to answer his question? (3:2)

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Explore It Questions

6. How did Paul expect the Galatians to answer his question? (3:2)

Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! **You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ.** (3:2 NLT)

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Explore It Questions

7. Based on Paul's second question to the Christians, how did he think the Galatians felt the Law could help them? (3:3)

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Explore It Questions

7. Based on Paul's second question to the Christians, how did he think the Galatians felt the Law could help them? (3:3)

How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? (3:3 NLT)

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Explore It Questions

8. Why did Paul ask the Galatians if their suffering had been for nothing? (3:4)

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Explore It Questions

8. Why did Paul ask the Galatians if their suffering had been for nothing? (3:4)

Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it? (3:4 NLT)

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Explore It Questions

9. On what basis did the Holy Spirit perform miracles? [\(3:5\)](#)

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Explore It Questions

9. On what basis did the Holy Spirit perform miracles? [\(3:5\)](#)

I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ. [\(3:5 NLT\)](#)

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Explore It Questions

10. How did Paul's use of Abraham as an example of faith strike a blow to the champions of the Law? [\(3:6-8\)](#)

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10. How did Paul's use of Abraham as an example of faith strike a blow to the champions of the Law? (3:6-8)

Explore It Questions

⁶In the same way, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith."
⁷The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God.
⁸What's more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." (3:6-8 NLT)

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11. How did Paul link the past with the present? (3:9)

Explore It Questions

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11. How did Paul link the past with the present? (3:9)

Explore It Questions

So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith. (3:9 NLT)

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Explore It Questions

12. What is the curse of the law? [\(3:10\)](#)

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Explore It Questions

12. What is the curse of the law? [\(3:10\)](#)

But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God's Book of the Law." [\(3:10 NLT\)](#)

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Explore It Questions

13. How does a person become justified before God? [\(3:11\)](#)

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13. How does a person become justified before God? (3:11)

So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." (3:11 NLT)

Explore It Questions

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14. Why is combining faith and Law impossible? (3:11-12)

Explore It Questions

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14. Why is combining faith and Law impossible? (3:11-12)


¹¹ So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."

¹² This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, "It is through obeying the law that a person has life." (3:11-12 NLT)

Explore It Questions

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Explore It Questions

15. How does Christ save people from the curse of the Law? [\(3:13\)](#)

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Explore It Questions

15. How does Christ save people from the curse of the Law? [\(3:13\)](#)

But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." [\(3:13 NLT\)](#)

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Explore It Questions

16. Why is Christ's redemptive work effective for both Jews and Gentiles? [\(3:14\)](#)

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16. Why is Christ's redemptive work effective for both Jews and Gentiles? (3:14)

Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith. (3:14 NLT)

Explore It Questions

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Get It Questions

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Get It Questions

17. When has your pastor corrected the congregation?

18. What rules have become very important in your church?

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Get It Questions

19. How much of your righteousness is self-righteous behavior?

20. If you were to write a two-line summary of the doctrine of justification, what would you say?

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Get It Questions

21. In your view, what is the biggest difference between Law and faith?

22. What is your relationship to Abraham?

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Get It Questions

23. What has Christ done for you?

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Apply It Questions

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Apply It Questions

24. In what situation can you share the blessings of Christ with someone else this week?

25. How can you help new Christians get a clear understanding of their position in Christ?

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