

Galatians: The Solution – It's Effect – Tools Used

What Solution is Offered?

Paul states the source of his apostleship and points out that the God who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in him for the apostleship to the uncircumcised.

Paul's Testimony:

My beginning: Paul initially offers his story in order to inform the Jews that he is no stranger to the problems of the Galatians. I know what I am talking about states the apostle. I used to preach the perverted gospel. I persecuted and tried to destroy the church. I was one of their best.

My turning point: God separated me from my mother's womb. God called me through His grace. God chose to reveal His Son in me. When God called me to preach Christ, I did not seek the counsel of men. I went to Arabia to seek God for understanding. The Jews were confused about me because the persecutor became the preacher of the faith which he formerly destroyed. He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me.

My battle for the faith: We have not yielded submission even for an hour that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. I withstood Peter to his face before them all because he compelled the Christians to live as Jews.

Paul's Teaching:

Paul immediately highlights the work of Jesus Christ. He states, "Our Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God.

Paul's teaching is summarized: "**Men are justified by faith in Jesus Christ.**" Those who **believe in Christ** Jesus are justified by faith in Christ. Men should **seek to be justified by Christ.**

I through the law died to the law that I might live to God

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh **I live by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness *comes* through the law, then Christ died in vain."

Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. *Only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, *saying*, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."¹⁴ ⁹ So then those who *are* of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. **The just shall live by faith.**

The Law: Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law having become a curse for us that **the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus**, that we might **receive the promise of the Spirit through faith**. The promises were made to Abraham and his Seed, Jesus Christ.

The promise was not annulled by the law which came 430 years later.

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What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. ²⁰ Now a mediator does not *mediate* for one *only*, but God is one.

Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. ²² But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the **promise by faith in Jesus Christ** might be **given to those who believe**. ²³

But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, **kept for the faith** which would afterward be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore **the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ**, that we might be **justified by faith**. ²⁵ But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Summary: Now I say *that* the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. ³ Even so we, when **we were children**, were **in bondage under the elements of the world**. ⁴

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born^[a] of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to **redeem** those who were under the law, that we might **receive the adoption as sons**.

Two Covenants: Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. ²³ But he *who was* of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, ²⁴ which things are symbolic. For these are the^[d] two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar — ²⁵ for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children — ²⁶ but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.

Now we, brethren, as Isaac *was*, are children of promise.

²⁹ But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him *who was born* according to the Spirit, even so *it is* now. ³⁰ Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? **“Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.”**^[f] ³¹ So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free

We through the Spirit eagerly wait for **the hope of righteousness by faith**.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off!

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself

Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Those led by the Spirit are not under the law.

What are the effects of the Solution?

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If anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

You receive the Spirit by the hearing of faith

He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, *does it* by the hearing of faith

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

If you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born^[a] of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to **redeem** those who were under the law, that we might **receive the adoption as sons**.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" ⁷ Therefore **you are no longer a slave but a son**, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

He who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

As we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy *be* upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

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What Tools were used to produce the desired effects?

Paul's testimony:

Paul's Teaching: Justification by faith in Christ, Abraham, The proper use of the law, Two covenants

Paul's Recommendation: Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off!

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

Let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.