

Galatians

Lesson 3: Galatians 3

The greatest deceiver in the world is Satan. Revelation 12:9 identifies him as one who “deceives the whole world.” Jesus says in Matthew 24:24 that false Christs and false prophets will arise and try to mislead, “if possible, even the elect.” These false Christs and false prophets work for Satan and their intended targets are Christians. As those who have faith in Christ, we must keep our guard up. The enemy will not stop at trying to deceive God’s children. Sadly, the Galatians believers had allowed themselves to be deceived and Paul confronts them about it in chapter 3. The Galatians had robbed themselves of God’s blessing and were in danger of preaching a false gospel to a lost and dying world who needed to hear the true gospel message. Let’s dive in and see how Paul responds to these deceived believers.

➤ **Read Galatians 3:1–5**

1. In verse 1, what does Paul call the Galatians? Why?
2. In verse 1, why does Paul bring up the crucifixion of Christ? (hint: see 2:20-21)
3. In verses 1–5, Paul ask a series of rhetorical questions. What is the answer to his question in verse 2?
4. Based upon Paul’s rhetorical question in verse 3, how is a believer sanctified?
5. In verse 5, how was the work of the Spirit performed among them?

Application: What commonly accepted rules have many Christians tried to make part of the gospel?

➤ **Read Galatians 3:6–18**

6. According to verse 6, how was Abraham saved? Was Abraham saved before the law was given or after?

7. According to verse 7, who are the “sons of Abraham”?

8. Read Genesis 12:3. Who is speaking? What does this tell us about “the Scripture” in verse 8?

9. In verse 8, what was “the gospel” that was given? Who are “all the nations”?

10. In verse 9, who is “blessed with Abraham”?

Application: How would you respond to a friend who says, “salvation *can't* be a free gift! Surely, we *have* to do our part!”

11. In verse 10, what is the state of everyone who is trying to be justified by “works of the Law”?

12. In verses 11–12, what do the justified “live by”? What do those seeking to be justified by works “live by”? Why can that not save them?

13. In verse 13, what did Christ redeem us from?

14. In verse 14, what do Gentiles receive through faith?

Application: When have you felt spiritually discouraged because of your inability to live up to God’s standards? How can you, or did you, resolve this in your life?

15. In verse 15, what does Paul use to give his argument?

16. In verse 16, who is the “seed” that Paul is referring to?

17. In verses 17–18, when did the Law come? How does this prove Paul’s point of justification by faith alone?

18. In verse 18, what does Paul say justification (the promise to Abraham) is **not** based upon? Why?

➤ **Read Galatians 3:19–29**

19. In verse 19, when Paul says the Law was added “because of transgressions,” he means it was added *to increase* sin and show how *guilty* mankind is. Why is this a good thing?

20. In verses 21–24, what was the purpose of the Law?

Application: When you sin against God and you have guilt in your heart. Is it good or bad? Why? What do you do in response to your guilt?

21. In verse 25, what is the result for those who are saved by faith?

22. In verses 26–29, what are three aspect of freedom in Christ that believers have?

1. Verses 26–27: _____

2. Verse 28: _____

3. Verse 29: _____

Application: Knowing that you are no longer under the condemnation of the Law but are “sons/daughters of God,” how should you respond?

Application: What practical things do you do to protect yourself from being deceived by the enemy?

Application: What one verse impacted you the most in this study? Explain.