

Redeemed from the Curse and Blessed by Faith

Galatians 3:13 - 14

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Redeemed from the Curse

Galatians 3:13a (NASB)

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law

- “Redeemed is *exagorazo* which implies being set free by the payment of a price
- This is a commercial metaphor
- This payment was made by Christ on the cross
- “us” means “all who believe”

2

Redemption Is Substitutionary: “For Us”

Galatians 3:13b (NASB)

having become a curse for us

- “*huper*” in this context means “on behalf of”
- “having become” references the cross
- There is an exchange: He bears our curse; We receive His blessing

3

Christ Was “Hung on Wood” and Thus Cursed

Galatians 3:13c (NASB)

for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”

- “a tree” is literally *xulon* “wood”
- Deuteronomy 21:23 is cited
- That Messiah was thus cursed was highly offensive to the Jews

4

The Blessing of Abraham for Gentiles

Galatians 3:14a (NASB)

in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles

- This is the first of two purpose clauses in verse 14
- This is promised in Genesis 12:3 and includes
- Isaiah 44:3 promises blessing and the Holy Spirit

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The Promise of the Spirit

Galatians 3:14b (NASB)

so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

- This is the second purpose clause, both with *hina* in the Greek
- There is an *inclusio* between Gal. 3:2 and Gal. 3:14; both with the reception of the Spirit
- Blessing is a gospel promise
- Blessing is for all believers, the curses for all unbelievers

6

Implications and Applications

- We must avoid false implications of the blessing and cursing teaching (there are many!)
- All of the redeemed were bought with a price – we must always treat them accordingly
- Those who are Abraham's children by faith have received the Holy Spirit

7

Logic Is Necessary for Understanding Scripture

2Peter 2:12 (NASB)

But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed,

- If Then
- There is a logical fallacy called "asserting the consequent" which is commonly believed in regard to blessing and cursing.

8

We Are Either Blessed or Cursed

Galatians 3:28, 29 (NASB)

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

- Therefore, Christian table fellowship is for all who have the faith of Abraham
- All of the redeemed were bought with a price (Acts 20:28)

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**Peter Previously Had Table Fellowship with
Converted Gentiles of Cornelius' Household**

Acts 11: 2, 3 (NASB)

And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those who were circumcised took issue with him, saying, "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them."

All the Blessed Have the Holy Spirit

Acts 11:17, 18 (NASB)

"Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life."

No Pietism!

Romans 8:7 - 9 (NASB)

because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.
