

Galatians 3:15-29

The Promise of Abraham		Galatians 3:15-29
<p><i>Intro:</i> Are we to believe that God can change his mind? Rephrase, do we think that we, humans, by our own will, can change God's mind?</p>	<p><i>Review:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salvation by faith alone. • Works, the Law, is a curse • For His glory, not ours 	<p><i>Today:</i> Paul continues his evidentiary case against works based/law based salvation. He will show that the promise came before the Law, and what the purpose of the Law was.</p>
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<p>1. Never break a promise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V. 15 A covenant, when ratified, cannot be changed (if it is, it then becomes a different covenant) (Num. 30:2) • V. 16 The promise of the One (Gen 12:7, Rom. 4:13) • V. 17-18 If the Law could save, the Promise is void. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The inheritance, the promise to Abraham. (Rom. 4:14-15) 	<p>2. The purpose of the Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V. 19 To make known sin. (Exo 20:20 & Deut. 5:32-33) • V. 20 The Law and Moses works as "an intermediary" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ God's revelation comes from God, thus Jesus being the fulfilment of the promise He is one with/is God. (not by man, 1:1) • V. 21-24 The Law is a guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ It is a guide/guardian (24) to our sin, but cannot break us out of sin (21-22). It was meant to keep those under the law on the straight path until the Promise (23)(Hebrews 9:9-10) 	<p>3. The promise for all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V. 25 No longer under the Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Our Faith, the Promise has come. Sons of the promise, "Abraham's offspring, heir according to promise. V. 29" *Note: That does not mean the rules no longer apply. The Law is still good for God's holiness and righteousness. (Matt 5:17-20) • No distinction in Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The message of the Gospel is for all! No longer just Israel but Christ is the blessing for the world (John 3:6 maybe)
<p><i>Conclusion:</i> The Gospel message, the message of Christ as King & savior, is a message for all. Not limited to any individual people. <u>Works ≠ faith, but faith = works of righteousness.</u> James 2:26 "...so also faith apart from works in dead."</p>		

References:

Numbers 30:2 If a man vows a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.

Genesis 12:7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Romans 4:13 For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that He would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

Romans 4:14-15 For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. **15** For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

Exodus 20:20 Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin."

Deut. 5:32-33 You shall be careful therefore to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. **33** You shall walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.

Hebrews 9:9-10 (which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, **10** but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

Matt. 5:17-20 "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. **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. **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. **20** For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.