

Word Analysis

ἀνάθεμα-anathema: one cursed.

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS — FIRST HALF

The book of Galatians goes on to answer the most basic question everyone asks either out loud or silently...**How do I get right with God for eternity?**

- ▶ He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart (**Ecclesiastes 3:11**).
- ▶ When the gospel is distorted it no longer adheres to absolute truth.
- ▶ The rise of every cult to date has been the gospel plus!
- ▶ When God revealed the truth of the gospel He made it simple.

Another Gospel

Galatians 1:6-9 "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed."

- ▶ Mormons believe Jesus was a created being and that Lucifer is His brother.
- ▶ Jehovah's Witness believe Jesus is not God.
- ▶ Paul goes on to defend that he received the gospel directly from Jesus. He did not need the approval of man.

Galatians 1:10-12 "For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ."

Confrontation

Galatians 2:11-14 "But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the



circumcision party. And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

Justified by Faith!

Galatians 2:16 "We know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

Galatians 3:17-18 "This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise."

► A Further Explanation

Galatians 3:2-3 "Let me ask you only this, Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?"

Why Then the Law?

Galatians 3:19-22 "It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe."

- In the case of the tutor or guardian.
- Not the teacher and not the parent.
- He determined this way not that, stay close, keep him safe and in bounds. He guarded him till he grew up. When Christ came and was offered as the Passover Lamb then the child reached adulthood.
- This is likened to the law. Never meant to gain righteousness but to keep us in check till final liberation from Messiah.



Paul does not say that the law was:

1. Bad
 2. Standard stopped
 3. Right and wrong dissolved
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- ▶ The law was never the road into the family but the guardian on the road.
 - ▶ The mistake was not taking the law seriously, the mistake was taking the law as the ticket in.
 - ▶ Faith then becomes the key to salvation, not simply belief.
 - ▶ Faith is not something you produce to earn a reward, it is an open hand that receives what God is giving. Through faith we receive grace and the only hand to receive are empty ones.

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS — SECOND HALF

It Was for Freedom That Christ Set Us Free

Galatians 4:21-26 “Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother.”

- ▶ The picture of the free woman-Sarah- and the slave-Hagar.
- ▶ Under the law we are under Hagar, a human effort, resulting in failure.
- ▶ Under Sarah, with a promise of grace resulting in freedom (salvation).

Galatians 5:1-6 “For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.”

