Oct. 28 & 29, 2017



## Freedom From Perfectionistic People

Four important words:

1. *righteousness* 5 times in Galatians

Holy and moral living according to God's character

2. *justified* 8 times in Galatians

to make or declare righteous in the sight of God

3. *redeem* 2 times in Galatians

to buy, to ransom

4. *sanctify* 0 times in Galatians

To progress in our faith

Galatians 3:3...*After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?* 

Galatians 3:3 ... Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? NASB

Six Questions to show us God gave us His Spirit by faith.

1. Galatians 3:1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? ...

Answer: The false brothers (2:4)

2. Galatians 3:2 I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?

Answer: By believing

3. Galatians 3:3 Are you so foolish? . . .

Answer: Don't answer that question

4. Galatians 3:3 ... After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

Answer: Yes, but I should not.

5. Galatians 3:4 Have you suffered so much for nothing — if it really was for nothing?

Answer: No, suffering was valid.

6. Galatians 3:5 Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

Answer: Because they believed

Six Quotations to show us Christ redeemed us by faith.

1. Galatians 3:6-7 quotes Genesis 15:6 Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

All who have faith will be blessed by the gospel.

2. Galatians 3:8-9 quotes Genesis 12:3 *I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse;* 

and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

The gospel is for all people who have faith.

3. Galatians 3:10 quotes Deuteronomy 27:26 "Cursed is the man who does not uphold the words of this law by carrying them out." . . .

One must keep the whole law to be saved by it.

4. Galatians 3:11 quotes Habakkuk 2:4 ". . . but the righteous will live by his faith."

No one is justified by the law.

5. Galatians 3:12 quotes Leviticus 18:5 *Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them ...* 

One must not only believe in the law, but live it.

6. Galatians 3:13-14 quotes Deuteronomy 21:23 ... anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse.

Christ redeemed all people from the curse.

One example to show us God keeps His promises.

Galatians 3:15 Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case.

16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ. 17 What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise.

18 For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on a promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

## 1. The law makes us prisoners to sin.

Galatians 3:21 Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. 22 But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

23 Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. 24 So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

2. The promise makes us children of God.

Galatians 3:26 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.