



Radical GRACE



A SUMMER IN GALATIANS



Section 2:

THE INCLUSIVE GOSPEL OF GRACE



A *Radical*
GRACE *Series*



Part 6 – Included by Promise

Galatians 3:15-29

¹⁵ To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. ¹⁷ 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.

Galatians 3:15-29

¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. ¹⁹ Why then the law? 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. ²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

Galatians 3:15-29

²¹ 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. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. ²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

Galatians 3:15-29

²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:15-29

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

The background is a painting of a beach scene, likely by Edward Hopper, showing palm trees, buildings, and people. The entire image is covered with a vertical gradient from green on the left to orange on the right. The text 'The Law compared to the Promise' is centered in the upper half of the image.

The Law compared to the Promise

The Promise is Superior to the Law in its:

- **Scope (v. 15-16)**
- **Duration (v. 17-18)**
- **Intimacy (v. 19-20)**
- **Ability to Give Life (v. 21-25)**
- **Inclusivity (v. 26-29)**

Galatians 3:15-16

¹⁵ To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ.



The Promise is Superior in its Scope

Galatians 3:17-18

¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.



The Promise is Superior in Duration

Galatians 3:19-20

¹⁹ Why then the law? 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.

²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

A painting of a tropical beach scene. In the foreground, there are concrete steps leading up to a paved area. A person is walking up the steps on the left. In the middle ground, several people are sitting on a bench or low wall. A white umbrella is visible. In the background, there are tall palm trees and multi-story buildings with windows. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The overall style is that of a classic oil painting.

The Promise is Superior in its Intimacy

Galatians 3:21-25

²¹ 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. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. ²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

Galatians 3:21-25

²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian



The Promise is Superior in its Ability to Give Life

The Purpose of the Law:

- **Positive Role: To Restrain Transgressions and Lead us to Christ**
- **Negative Role: To Increase Transgressions and Awareness of Sin**




"The law highlights our weakness so that we might seek the strength found in Christ."

-R.C. Sproul

“Therefore, trying to use the law as a means for righteousness and acceptance before God (aka legalism) will not only always fail, but will produce the opposite effect in our souls. Legalism contends that knowing right from wrong should be enough for us to resist temptation. Instead of producing a belief (faith and trust) in our acceptance by God, it will inevitably produce shame, guilt, and self-contempt. Legalism shifts our disgust away from sin, to ourselves.”

-Dr. Daniel A. Brown



παιδαγωγός paidagōgós
(Greek): guardian, tutor

Galatians 3:26-29

²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.



The Promise is Superior in its Inclusivity



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