

“And Abraham Believed God: The Man of Faith” (Part 2)
Galatians 3:15-22; Romans 4:1-17

“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree’” (Galatians 3:13). “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count sin” (Romans 4:7-8).

Romans 4

v.3: “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”

v.14: “For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.”

v.4: “Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.”

v.11: “The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well.”

v.12: “And to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.”

● What is the purpose of the Law?

- The promise that was made to Abraham and to Christ was repeated to Jacob 430 years before the Law came into play (Genesis 46:1-4 to Exodus 12:40). The promise was made to Abraham and Christ 25 years before circumcision was commanded by God (Genesis 12:1-3 to Genesis 17:23-25). Therefore saving faith is not attached to circumcision or the Law, but instead the physical nation of Israel is attached to these practices.
- The Law was given because of transgressions. The Law was meant to make people aware of their need for the promise. They could now see their sin clearly. *“Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.” (Romans 3:19-20)*

Galatians 3

v.6: “Just as Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”

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

v.10: “For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, ‘Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the Law, and do them.’”

v.14: “So that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.”

v.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.”

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Worship: Bless The Lord, O My Soul (Psalm 103) — Sovereign Grace Music
What A Friend We Have In Jesus — Various Artists Satisfied In You — The Sing Team

Closing Song: So I Will Trust You — Sovereign Grace Music

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- The Law also gives us knowledge of the abundance of the grace of God! This is glorious! *“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23). “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions....” (Titus 2:11-12). “Even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved” (Ephesians 2:5; cf. Romans 6:11-14).*

Announcements:

★**SUNDAY TEACHING CLASS:** We will be starting a new Sunday teaching class in 2 weeks, on January 22nd. This class will be an 8 week course entitled “A Biblical View of Prayer” and will be taught by Elder Zach. This class will be held every Sunday, for 8 weeks, at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up list on the back table for those who are interested in participating in this class!

★**CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING:** We will be having a business meeting in 2 weeks, on Sunday, January 22nd, immediately following the worship service to discuss the 2023 Church Budget. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for this important meeting!

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, January 15th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!