

Galatians 3

Blessing of the First Born

I. Gal. 3:19

A. In this chapter Paul is teaching the Galatians on the purpose of the Law.

B. The Galatians had been duped by the Judiazers who taught them that you need faith in Jesus to be saved, but you need the Law to be ultimately accepted and blessed by God. They taught Jesus saved you but the Law made you spiritual.

C. Paul in chapter 3 reveals the Law relationship between the Abrahamic covenant and the Law. In verse 19 Paul said the Law was "added" because of transgressions. In context Paul was saying the Law was added after the covenant of grace was given to Abraham.

D. The word "added" here is the Greek word prostithemi. We get our English word **prosthesis** from this word. A prosthesis is given when there is a missing an incomplete limb. The Covenant of Abraham had incomplete revelation needed for salvation. The Law was a prothesis to make up for what was missing in the Abrahamic Covenant.

E. Let's look at the Abrahamic Covenant.

II. Gen. 12:1-3

A. God gives 5 I wills. This is a covenant of grace.

B. The Abrahamic Covenant promised a coming seed that would bless the entire world. **Gen. 15; 22:18**

C. This covenant taught that God gives salvation and blessing by grace and it would come through a coming Seed. However, this covenant was deficient in that it had missing revelation. The Law was the prothesis to make up for this deficiency. The Law would show man's sin and need for salvation. Next, it would teach about what Abraham's Seed would have to do to bless the nations which was to be rejected, bear our sins, and die. We see this in the laws which produced transgressions and the sacrifices for them.

D. The Law would clearly teach the need for death to deal with sin. What the Law clearly taught, we see in type in the passing down of the Abrahamic Blessing. It is interesting to see how the blessing of Abraham was passed down.

E. **Gen. 21**- Ishmael the firstborn was rejected so the blessing of Abe would come to one that did not deserve it or to who it was not owed.

F. **Gen. 25**- Next Esau the firstborn was rejected so the blessing of Abe would come to Jacob

G. **Gen. 37**- Next Reuben firstborn was rejected so the blessing come to Joseph.

H. **Gen. 48**- Next Manasseh the firstborn was rejected so the blessing came to Ephraim.

I. Each of these were not the first born. They were not deserving of the blessing, nor earned it, nor was it owed. The blessing of the firstborn is a blessing of grace!

III. **Gal. 3:13-14**

A. Jesus God's firstborn was rejected and cursed.

B. He was rejected so the blessing of the firstborn could fall up us. Ones who did not earn it, deserve it, or was owed it!

C. The blessing of Abraham is on you right now!

D. Believe it and receive it! Jesus was rejected so you could have it!