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1.20.2019



GALATIANS

THE GREAT ESCAPE

GALATIANS 3:15-25

If salvation does not involve the Law, then why was the Law given in the first place?

If Paul quoted from the Law to prove the insignificance of the Law, and if the Law is now set aside, then his very arguments are worthless, because they were taken from the Law.

1) THE LAW CANNOT CHANGE THE PROMISE (vv. 15-18):

- ❑ Promise = *Justification* = “made acceptable”
 - ❑ Faith = *Blessings* = ‘the benefits of salvation’
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The Judaizers were teaching that the giving of the Law altered the original covenant (promise).

Paul argues that it did not!

Suppose a later revelation, such as the Law of Moses, was greater and more glorious than the earlier one, what then?

2) THE LAW IS NOT GREATER THAN THE PROMISE (vv. 19-20):

□ The Law was *temporary*

With the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, the Law was done! *“It is finished.”* (Jn. 19:30)

Paul explained, *“having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.”* (Col. 2:14)

□ The Law *required a mediator*

It came to the Hebrews third-hand: *from God... to angels... to Moses.*

The covenant with Abraham came from God without a mediator!

3) THE LAW IS NOT CONTRARY TO THE PROMISE (vv. 21-25):

Why then was the Law given?

- The Law was NOT given to *guarantee life*.**
- The Law was given to *reveal the prison of sin*.**

We remain locked in that prison of sin until through faith in Jesus we experience deliverance!

- The Law was given to *prepare us and lead us to Christ*.**

The Law served to prod us into seeing the depth of our inability to save ourselves by perfectly keeping the Law. Our hearts and minds are then open to an alternative... Jesus!

TAKE-AWAYS



God's Promise (Covenant) cannot be altered!

Will you just simply accept that the Covenant of Grace through the life, death and resurrection is enough?

The Inheritance is ours!
(see 1 Peter 1:3-4)



God's Promise (Covenant)— fulfilled in Jesus' birth, crucifixion and resurrection— brings us into relationship with God!

God made the promise to Abraham's seed, which is Christ. And if we are in Christ and belong to Christ, then we are Abraham's offspring, and therefore are heirs of the promise.