

Lesson 3
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SAN TAN HEIGHTS CHURCH SBC

GRACE GALATIANS 3&4

In Galatians 3 and 4, Paul unpacks a truth to the believers about Grace.
What do you know about Grace?
Do you practice Grace with your family and friends?

Let me help set up the context of Galatians by breaking down the Theology of Paul's discussion with the religious leaders of the day.

Have you ever played the game tug of war? You know, when two sides pull as hard as they can to drag the other into the pool of mud. Here we have a picture of Paul dragging the Jewish religious leaders into the mud. Not literally but metaphorically speaking of course. Galatians 3 and 4 is Paul's explanation to the Jewish leaders.

We will break down the discussion into several areas, so take your time and try to explain to your family what you are seeing Paul teach the Galatians and how that applies to us.

1. **Justification:** Paul explains that with Jesus Christ death and resurrection, when anybody receives Him, they are just as if they had never sinned. Accepted before God, innocent before God. Paul was dealing with people who were pulling with faith and others who were pulling with the law. The Judaism was so strong that they believed you had to become Jewish in order to be received by God. Can you see the mud pit Paul was pulling between?
2. **Conversation:** You will see Paul go from theology to ministering to the Jewish leaders. Paul stops teaching and begins to just talk about Grace.
Grace truths:
 - Unmerited favor
 - Wonderful blessings
 - Justification through faithPaul now offers his hand to them to help them out of the pit.

Paul uses these 5 steps to teach the understanding of Grace.

1. **Let's Be Friends:** Honor, praise, and build up are the focus Paul uses in order to reach the people. He explains that the law will not and cannot save you, but is the law worthless? What do you think about that statement? Certainly not, the law is good and needed. Read Romans 7:7-13.
Paul taught Justification by Faith in Jesus.
Is the law sin? NO
Legalism say's you have to do this and that to be saved.
Liberalism say's you don't have to do anything to be saved. Following the rules can't save you, but the danger of throwing them out is liberalism.
So the law has spiritual value and spiritual guidance.



3 things the law brings to the Christian life:

1. It's Holy to separate us from sin.
2. It's righteous to know God's standards.
3. It's beneficial to improve our life.

So the job of the Law is to tutor us, and guard us. Understanding and Spiritual protection.

2. **Let's Be Sons:** Gal 3:26-4:7. Paul gives several object lessons.

- **When does the Spirit of the Lord come?**
- **When does the Justification take place?**
- **When does Son ship happen?**

Paul is explaining that adolescent faith. Gal 4:1. He is speaking here of a Judaiser, or a person who has not matured past the point of receiving the Word past the Law. He then explains the **Rewarded Faith** meaning. This is the fullness of time, the exact time when Christianity happened. Christianity happened at the moment in time when Jesus died, then resurrected to life. Paul then explains the **resources of the inheritance**. He told them that they could become God's children if they would accept Him.

3. **Let's Be Careful:** Gal 4:8-11. The Jewish people were afraid of celebrating the Jewish festivals. They were taught that by celebrating they would loose the inheritance of God. Paul taught them to be careful, to not be caught up in worldly things but to honor God in all we do. What worldly things do you do that do not honor God? Paul warns us to be careful.
4. **Let's Be Honest:** Gal 4:12-20. Paul was probably as close to being blind as one can be. Notice that he offered to gouge his eyes out in order that they could understand and see clearly his honest attempt to change their lives. Are you being honest with your family? Are you able to give things up for your people?
5. **Let's Be Clear:** 4:21-31. Paul shows that he has not changed the Word. He uses Old Testament Scripture that his audience would have been very familiar with. What part of the Law and of Grace are you struggling with? Please feel free to ask questions that can help your family to see the Word clear.

Know that the staff is praying for you, and you are loved.

Pastor Billy