

## Galatians Handout Week Fourteen

What is the gospel?  
What does it offer?  
What is required?

Galatians 3-4 is a Jewish problem. We should just skip it.

Why the personal stuff first?  
Do you believe it?

What's the downside of the personal approach?  
What can we trust?

Why so much tension/opposition?

Isa. 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.

Jam. 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom *there is no variation or shifting shadow*.

What do we do with the law/the first 39 books?  
Is Paul crazy or crazy smart? Did Jesus weigh in on these issues?

The rabbit hole...

"You have heard it said."

Who said it? Where? When? What is the difference between what is said and what is written?  
Pentateuch. Oral tradition/Mishnah

Mat. 12:11a And a man was there whose hand was withered. And they (Pharisees) questioned Jesus, asking, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—so that they might accuse Him.

12:11b And He said to them, "What man is there among you who has a sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will he not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable then is a man than a sheep! So then, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath."

The upside of oral tradition-  
The downside

Why do we care?

Ps. 1:1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked...

Ps. 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing?

Isa. 1:11 "What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?" Says the Lord. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed cattle;

Isa. 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the Lord, “Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow;

Hag. 1:3 Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying, “Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses while this house lies desolate?”

The crux of the fight in Galatians

Pirkei 'Avot 1:2

Moses received the Torah at Sinai and transmitted it to Joshua, Joshua to the elders, and the elders to the prophets, and the prophets to the Men of the Great Assembly. They said three things: Be patient in [the administration of] justice, raise many disciples and make a fence round the Torah.

1:2 ...By three things is the world sustained: by the Torah (Law), by the Temple service, and the practice of acts of piety.

1:6 Great is Torah for it gives life to those that practice it, in this world and in the world to come.

Fence building:

Deut. 25:2 then it shall be if the wicked man deserves to be beaten, the judge shall then make him lie down and be beaten in his presence with the number of stripes according to his guilt. He may beat him forty times but no more

Did Jesus build fences?

Mat. 5:21 “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not murder,’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be answerable to the court.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be answerable to the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be answerable to the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

Mat. 5:19 Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. “For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven...<sup>48</sup> Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

What is Jesus doing?

Paul pivots...

Gal. 3:6 Just as Abraham believed (pisteuo) God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. 7 Know therefore, that it is those who are of faith (pistis) who are sons of Abraham.

What was Abraham in Ur?

What rules did he follow?

Gen. 15:4 Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.” And **He** took him outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” Then he believed the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Reckoned:

Was Abraham circumcised at the time of the reckoning?

Was the covenant with Abraham unilateral or bilateral?

Was Abe circumcised or un?

What did Abraham do?

Where did Paul get this idea of family status based on faith?

Mat. 8:10 Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who were following, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great *faith* with anyone in Israel. I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness

Lk. 19:1 He entered Jericho and was passing through. And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus.

19:8 And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today *salvation* has come to this house, since he also is a *son of Abraham*. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

How did Zacchaeus, a circumcised man, become a son of Abraham?

Jn. 8:37 I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. I speak the things which I have seen with My Father and you do the things which you have heard from your father."

They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you are Abraham's children, do the deeds of Abraham. But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do.

Why does it matter that we are Abraham's offspring?

- 1.
- 2.

What do children get?

Faith in what? What does Abraham believe?

1 Cor. 1:20 For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.

Gal. 3:8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith (pistis), preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the nations will be blessed in you." 9 So then those who are of faith (pistis) are blessed with Abraham, the believer (pistos).

How are all the nations blessed in Abraham?

Who are the stars?

Dan. 12:2 Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

How do we become offspring of God?

1 Jn. 5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God... 4 For whoever has been born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith. Who is the one who overcomes the world, but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Rom. 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons and daughters of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ

The weird thing about Gal.3:8

Jn. 7:42 Has not the *Scripture said* that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?"

James 4:5 Or do you think that the *Scripture speaks* to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

The astounding thing about Gal. 3:8

Dan. 12: 2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

### Discussion

What are you dealing with right now that this, very old heard it all a dozen times, truth can speak to?

--Saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.