

## **A THE FOOLISH GALATIANS. Galatians 3:1-5.**

- ❖ Paul used harsh and clear words to make the Galatians reflect on their stance.
- ❖ They had received Jesus by faith, but they were setting His righteousness aside and replacing it with their own works of the law.

## **B THE OLD TESTAMENT FAITH. Galatians 3:6-8.**

### ❖ **THE OLD TESTAMENT AUTHORITY.**

- The Scriptures—including the New Testament—are the greatest doctrinal authority.
- Paul's theology is based on biblical quotes. We can find those quotes all over his letters excluding the shortest ones, Titus and Philemon.

### ❖ **JUSTIFICATION IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

- The Jews believed God blessed Abraham and his descendants because of his perfect obedience.
- Nevertheless, Paul used Abraham's example to show the opposite. Was Abraham just because of his obedience? Certainly not.
- *His faith was credited to him as righteousness, not his works.*
- He didn't do those works to be justified, but because he had been already justified.

### ❖ **THE GOSPEL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

- God taught the Gospel to Abraham. God promised Abraham a large family and a place to live in. In addition, He taught him that the Messiah would be his descendant and that the Messiah would die for everyone's sins (Genesis 22:1-18).
- Abraham was not asked to promise anything. He just had to accept God's promises. There was no work Abraham could do to make those promises true.
- David and Joshua are two examples from the Old Testament of forgiveness by repentance and not by works (Psalm 32:1-5; Zechariah 3:1-4).

## **C SAVED FROM THE CURSE OF THE LAW. Galatians 3:10-14.**

- ❖ The law is simple. If you obey everything, then you'll be blessed. If you disobey a single point, you'll be cursed (Dt. 27 and 28). It's all or nothing.
- ❖ Since we all have sinned (Romans 3:23), we all are under the curse of the law.
- ❖ But Christ redeemed us. That is, he bought us by paying our ransom. He carried our curse and suffered the punishment for our sin by dying at the cross (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 6:20; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- ❖ Everyone sharing Abraham's faith can have that gift.