

## Based on Galatians 3:15-20.

### A THE COVENANT AND THE PROMISE.

- ❖ The Greek word for “covenant” is diathēkē. It means both covenant and testament. It’s a type covenant where only one of the parts makes a promise to the other part. That promise is usually fulfilled in a certain moment (for example, after the testator passes away).
- ❖ God promises and we receive. Abraham just accepted the promise by faith. God always fulfills His promises (2 Corinthians 1:20).

### B THE PROMISE AND THE LAW.

- ❖ Did the law abrogate the previous promise? No. Did the fulfillment of the promise [Christ] abrogate the law? No.
- ❖ Salvation is by faith in the promise, so the law cannot save us.

### C THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW.

- ❖ The law was introduced to show our sinful condition and to open our eyes to the sin in our lives (Romans 7:13).
- ❖ The term “till the Seed” could mean that the law was no longer needed after Christ came. Nevertheless, “till” doesn’t always mean a certain period of time.
  - For example, Jesus said: “But hold fast what you have till I come.” (Revelation 2:25) That doesn’t mean that we will no longer need love or kindness after He comes again...
- ❖ The law was meant for more than filling a void from 430 years after the promise (Sinai) until its fulfillment (Christ). Its lifetime is much longer than that.
- ❖ For example, God said that Abraham “Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.” (Genesis 26:5) Joseph knew that adultery was a sin against God (Genesis 39:7-10). The people of Israel kept the Sabbath day before the law was announced (Exodus 16:22-26).
- ❖ Then why did God announce the law in Sinai to the people of Israel through Moses?
- ❖ Because the people had forgotten most of the law during their slavery in Egypt.

### D THE SUPERIORITY OF THE PROMISE.

- ❖ The law God gave Israel is eternal but cannot save anyone.
- ❖ The sacrifice of Jesus (the promise) was the turning point in the story of Salvation. From that moment on, there’s a way to be saved (that was foreshadowed by the ceremonial law).
- ❖ The law is important, but it cannot replace the promise of salvation by grace and faith alone. Thanks to the law, we can better understand how wonderful that promise is.