

A THE LAW AND THE PROMISE. Galatians 3:21.

- ❖ Faith and law have different roles in the plan of salvation.
- ❖ The Pharisees thought the law could bring life because it was written that men “shall live by them” (Leviticus 18:5). But the law cannot bring spiritual life.
- ❖ That’s why Paul explained the role of the law in our lives.

B IMPRISONED AND KEPT UNDER THE LAW. Galatians 3:22-23.

- ❖ The expression “under the law” may be understood in two different ways:
 - Being under the law as an alternative for salvation (Galatians 4:21).
 - Being under the law as being condemned by it because of our sins (Galatians 3:10; Romans 6:14-15).
- ❖ The law is like a jailer that imprisons everyone who has ever transgressed the law and is sentenced to death because of his or her sins.
- ❖ We may find a positive meaning of the words “confined” and “imprisoned”.
 - CONFINED: Protected or kept (Philippians 4:7; 1 Peter 1:5)
 - IMPRISONED: Gathered, secured (Luke 5:6; Romans 11:32)
- ❖ The law was not a curse but a blessing. It protected Israel from the vices that led other people to physical and moral destruction.

C THE LAW AS OUR TUTOR. Galatians 3:24.

- ❖ Why has the law been our tutor?
 - It teaches and it shows what is sin
 - It reprimands us and condemns us as sinners
 - It leads us to Christ as the only way to salvation
- ❖ The law was given to point to the sinners’ need for salvation.

D THE LAW AFTER FAITH. Galatians 3:25.

- ❖ Christ releases us from the condemnation of the law and writes His law in our hearts (Hebrews 8:10). What does that mean?
 - We have been forgiven, we are no longer under the condemnation of the law but under the grace (Romans 6:14).
 - The law is now written in our hearts, and we show it as we show Jesus’ character in our lives, since the law is a transcription of His character (see Matthew 5-7).
- ❖ How do we cooperate as God writes His laws on our hearts?