



November 20, 2011 • Pastor Justin Ross

## Part 6 - Law and the Promise

Galatians 3:15-22

### 1. The Promise

“Dear brothers and sisters, here’s an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or amend an irrevocable agreement, so it is in this case. God gave the promises to Abraham and his child. And notice that the Scripture doesn’t say “to his children,” as if it meant many descendants. Rather, it says “to his child” — and that, of course, means Christ. This is what I am trying to say: The agreement God made with Abraham could not be canceled 430 years later when God gave the law to Moses. God would be breaking his promise. For if the inheritance could be received by keeping the law, then it would not be the result of accepting God’s promise. But God graciously gave it to Abraham as a promise.”

~ Galatians 3:15-18 (NLT)

- If you’re going to teach that the law brings righteousness (*rightness morally, figuratively, justice, being right with God*) check out these Old Testament verses before you do... [Genesis 15:6](#); [Genesis 12:3](#) (Through the Messiah all the nations enter the blessing of Abraham); [Deuteronomy 27:26](#); [Habakkuk 2:4](#); [Leviticus 18:5](#) (If you want to live by the law you’re going to live or die by the law.)

### 2. Why was the law given?

“Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised. God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people. Now a mediator is helpful if more than one party must reach an agreement. But God, who is one, did not use a mediator when he gave his promise to Abraham.” ~ Galatians 3:19-20 (NLT)

- Romans 3:20; 5:20; 7:7; 7:13

- The Law of God was not given to cure sin.

- Men had knowledge of sin through the conscience but the Law showed men that sin is a direct violation of a holy God.

“Satan would have us prove ourselves holy by the law which God gave to prove us sinners.” ~ Andrew Jukes

### 3. Does the law & God’s promises contradict each other? Nope!

“Is there a conflict, then, between God’s law and God’s promises? Absolutely not! If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it.” ~ Galatians 3:21 (NLT)

- The promise is Jesus Christ and the law shows us that we need Jesus Christ!

### 4. So how do we escape the curse of the law again?

“But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God’s promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ.” ~ Galatians 3:22 (NLT)

## More Notes



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