



All Are Equal in Jesus: The Only Source Salvation

Galatians 3:15-29 (Part 1)

REVIEW:

1. By grace we are saved through faith – not through merit, ethnicity or status.

Gal. 2:15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

2. God's plan of redemption is available for all.

Gal. 3:14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

WHAT IS PAUL DRIVING AT: IN JESUS, ALL ARE EQUAL IN GOD'S SIGHT.

Gal. 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISE SUCCEEDS IN ESTABLISHING SALVATION BECAUSE...

1. ...it is irrevocable and unchangeable.

Gal. 3:15 To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified.

2. ... Jesus uniquely fulfills it – by God's design.

Gal. 3:16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ.

3. ...it predates the law and encompasses all of history.

Gal. 3:17 This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. 18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

NOTES:

THE LAW FAILS TO ESTABLISH OUR SALVATION BECAUSE...

1. ...it only temporarily addressed Israel's failures.

Gal. 3:19a Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made,

2. ... it required a mediator.

Gal. 3:19b and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. 20 Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

3. ...it has already accomplished its specific purpose.

Gal. 3:21 Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. 22 But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

ALL WHO TRUST THE PROMISE (JESUS), REGARDLESS OF STATUS OR MERIT, EQUALLY SHARE HIS INHERITANCE.

Gal. 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

REVIEW / DISCUSS:

1. No matter your "status" (merit, ethnicity, gender, etc.), only faith in Jesus establishes our right-standing before God. Take a moment this week to read and meditate on Ephesians 2:13-17. What truths communicated there do you also see playing out in Galatians 2-3?
2. Do you struggle with, or rejoice over, the truth that before God all believers are equal in Christ - regardless of any worldly metric? What compels your response? Why is this truth such good news?

APPLY:

3. Take some time to make a list of the worldly standards you are consistently operating under in your everyday life. Contemplate how you might make the mistake of believing that God holds you to those same standards. With recognition of your status in Jesus, light that list on fire (or tear it up if fire scares you). Rejoice in the fact that faith in Jesus makes you righteous. When God looks at you he sees his Son.

SONGS

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Same God
Grace
Yet Not I But Christ Through Me
In Christ Alone

GIVING FOR WEEK ENDING 2/15:

Weekly Giving: \$8,029 Need: \$12,300
YTD Giving: \$63,338 Need: \$73,800
Expansion Fund: \$282,670

COMMUNICATION & GIVING

Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, and communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please pass your envelope to the ushers or deposit them in the offering box by the exit doors. Thank you!

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