

Notes and Quotes

A FEW THOUGHTS TO HELP US MOVE THROUGH THE STUDY
AND GAIN A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

GALATIANS 3

Those who try to win God's favour by keeping the law are condemned to death by that law when they break it. Since all break it, all are condemned (10). Another reason why people cannot be justified through the law is that justification is by faith; but the law requires obedience, not faith (11-12). Christ's death on the cross was the clear sign to all that He bore the curse of God. He suffered the death penalty on behalf of the law-breakers, so that all who believe in him might escape the law's curse. Like Abraham, they are justified by faith (13-14).

- Flemming

The law was given to show the sinfulness of sin, and to act as a schoolmaster till Christ should come, Galatians 3:19-25. It is by faith only that any become children of God, Galatians 3:26. And under the Gospel, all those distinctions which subsisted under the law are done away; and genuine believers, whether Jews or Gentiles, bond or free, are one in Christ Jesus.

- Clarke

The law God gave to Moses neither replaced nor conflicted with the promise He gave to Abraham. The purpose of the law and the purpose of the promise were different. God never intended the law to be a means of salvation. It showed people God's standards, but showed them also how helpless they were to meet those standards. It impressed upon them that they could receive life and righteousness only by the promised gift of God, and they had to receive that gift by faith (21-22). - Flemming

O foolish Galatians That is, foolish for having yielded to the influence of the false teachers, and for having embraced doctrines that tended to subvert the gospel of the Redeemer. The original word used here (ἀνόητοι anoētoi) denotes void of understanding; and they had shown it in a remarkable manner in rejecting the doctrine of the apostles, and in embracing the errors into which they had fallen... It is implied that they were without stability of character. The particular thing to which Paul refers here is that they were so easily led astray by the arguments of the false teachers. - Barnes