

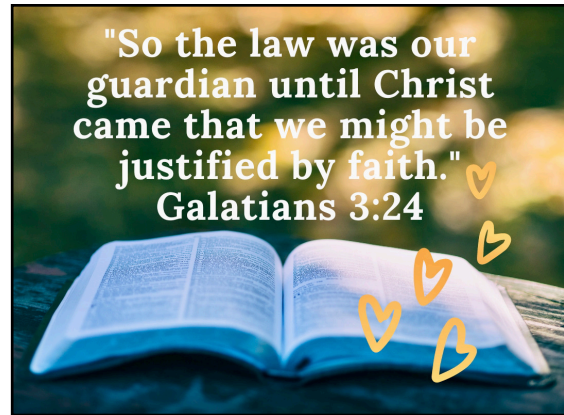
Sermon Scavenger Hunt

Galatians 3:15-29



Think about it...If we are saved by grace and not by keeping the law, what do you think is the point of the law?

Sermon Scavenger Hunt Questions...Listen to the sermon to discover answers to the following questions. Submit your answers for a prize!



1. The Judaizers were basically saying, “Okay, Paul, let’s just say your argument that Abraham was justified by faith is legit. What about when God gave all 600+ laws of Moses to the Israelite people to obey 430 years after Abraham? Obviously, God thought we needed to contribute something to our salvation to prove we are worthy of God’s promised inheritance.” Have you ever been tempted to think, like the Judaizers, that God gave us the law to keep as a way to prove we are worthy of God’s blessings?

Read Galatians 3:15-18.

¹⁵ Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. ¹⁶ The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ. ¹⁷ What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

2. For the sake of the argument, pretend that your great-grandfather set aside college tuition for you in his will and then dies. Your great-aunt says she will keep the money for you until you prove you are worthy of it first by mowing her lawn, taking out her trash, and weeding her flower beds for the next 15 years. A lawyer steps in and says your great-grandfather’s will can’t be changed after his death; the will is binding. The money is yours to use for college, no strings attached. In verse 15, Paul uses a will as an analogy: If a will made by humans can’t be changed after death, then how much more binding is the covenant God made with Abraham? Just because God gave the Israelites laws 430 years later, that doesn’t cancel out the covenant God made with Abraham. So, according to this argument are people justified by faith or by law-keeping? Why?
3. Jesus Christ is the seed in verse 16, and Jesus is a descendent of Abraham. Only by belonging to Jesus can we become a true child of Abraham and an heir to the promises of God. What promises does God give all who put their faith in Christ?

4. When God gave Moses and the people of Israel the law, God did **NOT** say, "Once I taught you to trust me; now I teach you to work for me; once I taught you to rely on grace, now I teach you to earn merit; once I taught you to magnify me through childlikeness, now I teach you to magnify yourselves through legalism."¹ So then, what is the purpose of God's laws?

Read Galatians 3:19-25.

¹⁹ Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. ²⁰ A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one. ²¹ Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. ²² But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe. ²³ Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. ²⁴ So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

5. Paul gives us two images of the law to show us keeping the law will never make us right with God. How is the law like a prison warden or jailer (verse 23)?
6. Paul gives us a second image in Galatians 3:24-25. How is the law like a guardian or the constant supervision of a tutor?
7. True or False. The law's role as prison warden and guardian are temporary situations until the faith that was to come would be revealed.
8. It's always been about Jesus; it's always been about being accepted by God on the basis of grace through faith, but the law does have an important purpose. What is it?
9. Have you ever been crushed by your inability to perfectly follow all of God's good rules? Why do you NEED a Savior?

Read Galatians 3:26-29.

²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

10. "God is no longer our Judge who through the law has condemned and imprisoned us. God is no longer our Tutor who through the law restrains and chastises us. God is now our Father who in Christ has accepted and forgiven us" (John Stott). Baptism is a picture of our adoption into God's family, but our baptism doesn't save us, either. How does God become our Father?
11. Differences of race, social standing, and gender still exist in God's family. How does seeing one another as children of God change how we should interact?

¹ John Piper, <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/the-law-does-not-annul-the-promise>