



Galatians 3: A Commentary by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?

[changed the gospel 1:6 to move away from Jesus; cast a spell to cause disobedience 3:1; interrupted to "hinder" obedience 5:7]

2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

[Where, in Moses' Law, had miraculous works been widespread, Mark 16:17-20? Since Pentecost, Acts 2, Apostles' baptism in the Holy Spirit Acts 2:38, 43, then those upon whom they laid their hands Acts 8:12-19, until New Testament completed Hebrews 2:3; Jude 3]

4 Have you suffered so many things in vain--if indeed it was in vain?

5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? --

["works of the law" =Moses OR "the hearing of faith" =Christ]

6 just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

["Genesis 15:6"]

7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

[3:26-29; Romans 4:9-13]

8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."

["all the nations," Genesis 12:3; 26:4; 28:14, never was limited to the Israelites/Jews! God's Plan was never for Jews in Israeli land permanently, but Jews & Gentiles in any land, Matthew 28:18-20]

9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

[Hebrews 11:1-38, 39-40]

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."

[Deuteronomy 27:26]

11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."

["Habakkuk 2:4;" see note]

12 Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them."

["Leviticus 18:5" keepers of Moses, not Jesus]

13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

[Deuteronomy 21:22-23]

14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

[Jesus had to remove "the law," Romans 7:1-6; Ephesians 2:11-18]

15 Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it.

16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.

[Paul was an inspired "Hebraist." No interpretation of Genesis 22:15-18 can refer to Levitical priests, Israelites, church of Christ, or any other plurality, because of this God-inspired interpretation, 2 Peter 1:20-21. God said what He meant to Abraham, and explained what He meant through Paul!]

17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.

[God prophesied Israel's "affliction" in Egypt as lasting 400 years, Genesis 15:13. Paul used Moses' total time from Abraham's call to the Exodus of Israelites from Egypt, Exodus 12:40-41, after which God gave the Sinai Law. The Law of Moses did not supersede or supplant God's covenant with Abraham, but was only used to bring about the singular fulfillment of that Promise!]

18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

[God never intended to save "all nations" through Moses' Law. God's promise to Abraham offers salvation through Jesus Christ]

19 What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.

["Till" sets the time limit on Moses' Law. Jesus' coming began the end of Moses, 4:4; Matthew 5:17-18. "Last days" describes the end of the Jews as the chosen people, Hebrews 1:1-2]

20 Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one.

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law.

22 But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed.

24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

[Once "the law" had served its purpose, it was removed, Colossians 2:14-16]

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

[There is no other way to become "sons of God" today before, or without, baptism.]

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

[There is no "Black Lives Matter," "White Lives Matter," "Blue Lives Matter," or any other segment of humanity that can be named. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is for "every creature," Mark 16:15-16.]

29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (NKJV)

[The church of Christ is the fulfillment of God's eternal plan, promised through Abraham, Ephesians 3:1-12]