

# Galatians 3

Chapter 3 of 6 · 29 Verses · Authorized King James Version

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## **By Faith or by Works of the Law?**

<sup>1</sup> O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

<sup>2</sup> This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

<sup>3</sup> Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?

<sup>4</sup> Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain.

<sup>5</sup> He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

<sup>6</sup> Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

<sup>8</sup> And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

<sup>9</sup> So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

<sup>10</sup> For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

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### **The Law and the Promise**

15 Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.

16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

18 For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

20 Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

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## Children of God Through Faith

**23** But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

**24** Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

**25** But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

**26** For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

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

**28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

**29** And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

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## HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

### **Baptize** — βαπτίζω (Baptizo)

To baptize, immerse

The Greek **baptizo** (βαπτίζω) means to dip, immerse, or baptize. Christian baptism symbolizes identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:3-4).

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### **Covenant** — διαθήκη (Diatheke)

Covenant, testament

The Greek **diatheke** (διαθήκη) means covenant or testament—a binding arrangement. The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34) is ratified by Christ's blood, surpassing the old (Hebrews 8:6-13).

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### **Faith** — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

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### **God** — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

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**Law — νόμος (Nomos)**

Law

The Greek **nomos** (νόμος) denotes law—particularly the Mosaic law. While believers are not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14), Christ fulfilled the law (Matthew 5:17) and wrote it on believers' hearts (Hebrews 8:10).

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**Messiah — Χριστός (Christos)**

Christ, Anointed One

The Greek **Christos** (Χριστός) translates 'Messiah'—the Anointed One. Peter confessed 'Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God' (Matthew 16:16), recognizing Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah.

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**Redeem — λυτρόω (Lutroo)**

To redeem, ransom

The Greek **lutroo** (λυτρόω) means to redeem or ransom—purchasing freedom by paying a price. Christ redeemed us 'with the precious blood' (1 Peter 1:18-19), the ransom for sin.

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**Righteous — δίκαιος (Dikaio)**

Righteous, just

The Greek **dikaio** (δίκαιος) means righteous or just—conforming to God's standard. Christ's righteousness is imputed to believers through faith (Romans 4:5), making them legally righteous before God.

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**Sin — ἁμαρτία (Hamartia)**

Sin, missing the mark

The Greek **hamartia** (ἁμαρτία) means sin—missing the target of God's perfection. 'All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23), requiring Christ's atoning sacrifice.

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**Spirit — πνεῦμα (Pneuma)**

Spirit, wind, breath

The Greek **pneuma** (πνεῦμα) means spirit, wind, or breath—the immaterial aspect of persons. The Holy Spirit (Pneuma Hagion) is the third person of the Trinity, dwelling in believers.

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**Transgression — παράβασις (Parabasis)**

Transgression, violation

The Greek **parabasis** (παράβασις) means transgression—stepping across a boundary. 'Where no law is, there is no transgression' (Romans 4:15), for transgression requires a known standard to violate.

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**Truth — ἀλήθεια (Aletheia)**

Truth, reality

The Greek **aletheia** (ἀλήθεια) denotes truth or reality—that which corresponds to actuality. Jesus declared, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life' (John 14:6), embodying ultimate reality.

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**CROSS REFERENCES**

**Galatians 3:1** **References Christ:** Galatians 1:6; 2 Corinthians 11:3. **Parallel theme:**

Galatians 3:3; 4:9; Ephesians 4:14; Hebrews 5:9; 11:8; 1 Peter 4:17; 2 Peter 2:18; Revelation 2:20

**Galatians 3:2** **Faith:** Galatians 3:5; 3:14. **Spirit:** Acts 2:38; 8:15; 15:8; Hebrews 2:4

**Galatians 3:4** **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 18:24; 1 Corinthians 15:2; 2 John 1:8

**Galatians 3:5** **Faith:** Galatians 3:2. **Word:** Acts 14:3. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 10:4; 12:12; 13:3. **Spirit:** Romans 15:19

**Galatians 3:6** **Faith:** Galatians 3:9; Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:24; James 2:23

### **Galatians 3:7**

**Faith:** Galatians 3:9; Romans 4:24. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 100:3. **References Abraham:** John 8:39

**Galatians 3:8** **Blessing:** Genesis 12:3; 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; 28:14. **Faith:** Galatians 3:22; John 7:38; Hebrews 4:2. **Word:** Genesis 49:10. **References Abraham:** Galatians 3:16

**Galatians 3:9** **Faith:** Galatians 3:14; Romans 4:11; 4:16; 4:24. **References Abraham:** Galatians 3:29. **Parallel theme:** Galatians 4:28

**Galatians 3:10** **Word:** Galatians 2:16; Deuteronomy 27:26; Jeremiah 11:3; Romans 4:15; 8:7. **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 6:23. **Curse:** Deuteronomy 29:20; Isaiah 43:28; Matthew 25:41

**Galatians 3:11** **Faith:** Galatians 2:16; Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:17; Hebrews 10:38. **Righteousness:** Ecclesiastes 7:20. **References God:** Revelation 5:9. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 53:6

**Galatians 3:12** **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 18:5; Ezekiel 20:11; 20:13; Romans 11:6. **Word:** Nehemiah 9:29; Matthew 19:17. **Faith:** Romans 4:14; 4:16

**Galatians 3:13** **Parallel theme:** Matthew 26:28; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 4:10. **Curse:** Deuteronomy 21:23. **Redemption:** Galatians 4:5; Hebrews 9:12; 9:15; Revelation 5:9. **References Christ:** 1 Peter 3:18; Revelation 1:5

### **Galatians 3:14**

**Spirit:** Isaiah 32:15; Ezekiel 11:19; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 2:18; 2:22; 1 Peter 1:22. **Faith:** Galatians 3:2; John 7:39. **Covenant:** Acts 2:33. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 49:6

**Galatians 3:15** **Covenant:** Hebrews 9:17. **Parallel theme:** Romans 6:19

**Galatians 3:16** **Covenant:** Acts 3:25; Romans 4:13; 4:16. **References Abraham:** Galatians 3:8; Genesis 21:12; Luke 1:55. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 12:3; 12:7; 15:5. **References Christ:** Colossians 3:11

### **Galatians 3:17**

**Parallel theme:** Genesis 15:13; Isaiah 14:27. **References God:** Romans 3:3. **Covenant:**

Galatians 3:15; 2 Corinthians 1:20. **Word:** Galatians 5:4; John 1:17; 1 Corinthians 1:17; Colossians 2:4

### **Galatians 3:18**

**Word:** Galatians 2:21. **Covenant:** Galatians 3:29; Psalms 105:42. **References God:** Romans 8:17

**Galatians 3:19** **Word:** Deuteronomy 5:5; John 1:17; Acts 7:53; Romans 2:13; 4:15; Hebrews 2:2. **Covenant:** Galatians 3:16. **Sin:** John 15:22; Acts 7:38. **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 2:5

### **Galatians 3:20**

**References God:** Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 2:5. **Parallel theme:** Job 9:33; Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 12:24

**Galatians 3:21** **Righteousness:** Galatians 2:17; 2:21; Romans 3:4; 9:31. **Word:** Galatians 2:19; Romans 3:31. **References God:** Romans 3:6

**Galatians 3:22** **Parallel theme:** Psalms 143:2; Romans 11:32. **Covenant:** Hebrews 9:15; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 2:25. **Faith:** Galatians 3:23; John 3:36; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9. **Sin:** Romans 5:12

**Galatians 3:23** **Word:** Galatians 3:19; 5:18; Romans 3:19. **Parallel theme:** Romans 11:32

**Galatians 3:24** **Faith:** Galatians 2:16; Romans 10:4. **References Christ:** Colossians 2:17. **Word:** Galatians 2:19

**Galatians 3:25** **Parallel theme:** Romans 6:14; 7:4

### **Galatians 3:26**

**References Jesus:** John 20:17; Ephesians 1:5. **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 6:18. **References God:** Ephesians 5:1; Philippians 2:15; Revelation 21:7

**Galatians 3:27** **References Christ:** Romans 13:14. **Baptism:** Acts 2:38; 8:16; 16:15; 1 Corinthians 12:13; 1 Peter 3:21. **Parallel theme:** Job 29:14; Isaiah 61:10; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10

**Galatians 3:28** **References Christ:** Romans 1:16; Colossians 3:11. **References Jesus:** Galatians 5:6. **Parallel theme:** John 10:16; 11:52; 17:11; Romans 9:24; 1 Corinthians 7:14; 7:19; Ephesians 4:4

**Galatians 3:29** **Covenant:** Galatians 3:16; Ephesians 3:6; James 2:5. **References Abraham:** Galatians 3:7. **References Christ:** Galatians 4:7; Romans 8:17; 2 Corinthians 10:7. **Parallel theme:** Titus 3:7; Revelation 21:7

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