

The Covenants of Scripture

Synchronizing the Covenants



Scripture

- **Galatians 3:5-19, 21-26, 29**

⁵So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Even so Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “All the nations will be blessed in you.” So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer. For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them.” Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, “The righteous man shall live by faith.” Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Brethren, I speak in terms of human relations: even though it is only a man’s covenant, yet when it has been ratified, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it. Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as referring too many, but rather to one, “And to your seed,” that is, Christ. What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.

²¹Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law. But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ.

²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.

Other Scriptures

- Romans 7:12
- Matthew 11:29
- Romans 7:2-3
- Genesis 22:18
- Galatians 4:5
- Titus 3:5
- Gen. 15:1

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Main Points

- The Mosaic Covenant is where the law comes from.
- Real faith translates into action.
- The action of faith is not the works of the law, it is obeying the Spirit.
- Shema in Hebrew means hearing in English. Hearing that translates into doing.
- Be careful of teaching that tries to lure you into keeping the law.
- We look for the spiritual application of the Law, but we do not use it as a way to stand before God righteously.
- The Law was given to hold the Abrahamic Covenant in place until Jesus fulfilled it.
- The Law prepared us to receive Jesus.
- Once again, the Primary Covenants in Scripture:
 - Abrahamic
 - Permanent
 - Based on faith
 - Based on the promise from God
 - Unconditional and irrevocable
 - Mosaic
 - New
- The blessing of Abraham has come upon us through Jesus.
- It is important to simply walk with God by trusting Him.
- God Himself is your reward.

Discussion Questions

1. Did God intend for the Mosaic Covenant to supersede or replace the Abrahamic Covenant? If not, why did He give it?

2. What relationship does the New Covenant have with the Abrahamic and Mosaic Covenants?

3. Fill in this thought: The blessing of Abraham has come upon us through _____.

4. How does the Law serve us today as a spiritual application? What does it mean that it is a tutor? What is the magnificent reward ahead for us if we walk with God by faith?

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