

GALATIANS

NO OTHER GOSPEL

Book of Galatians

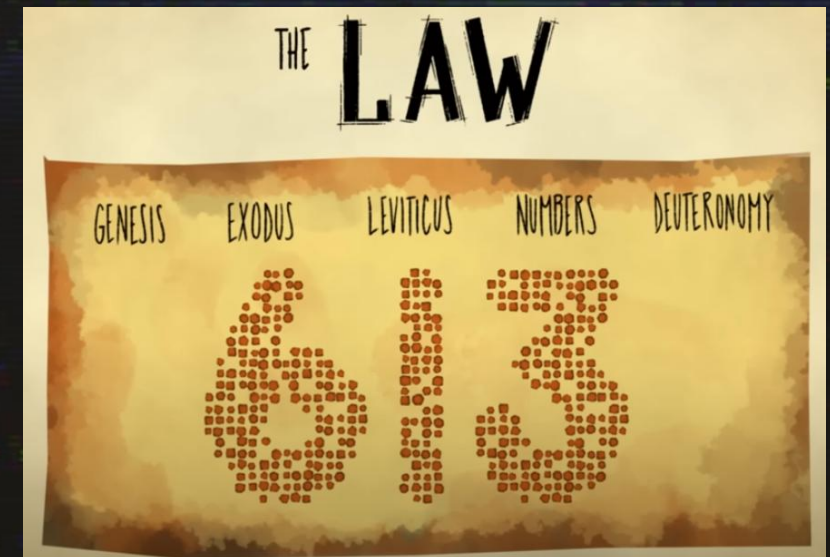
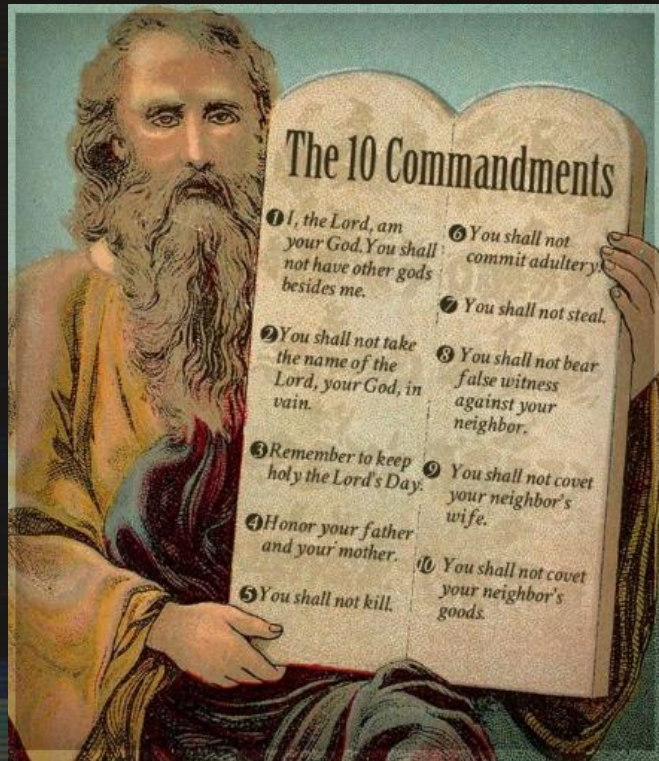
Freedom in Christ

Week	Section	Topic	Teacher
1: May 3 rd	Galatians Intro	Paul's Background & Introduction	Ron Grebe
2: May 10 th	Galatians 1:1-10	Greeting & No Other Gospel	Ron Grebe
3: May 17 th	Galatians 1:11-24	Paul Called by God	Stew Bruner
4: May 24 th	Galatians 2:1-10	Paul Accepted by the Apostles	Adam Collins
5: May 31 st	Galatians 2:11-21	Paul Opposes Peter	Mike Gann
6: June 7 th	Galatians 3:1-14	By Faith or Works of the Law	Stew Bruner
7: June 14 th	Galatians 3:15-29	The Law and the Promise	Ron Grebe
8: June 21 st	Galatians 4:1-20	Sons and Heirs & Paul's Concern	Mike Gann
9: June 28 th	Galatians 4:21-31	Example of Hagar and Sarah	Grant Phipps
10: July 5 th	Galatians 5:1-15	Christ Has Set Us Free	Ron Grebe
11: July 12 th	Galatians 5:16-26	Keep in Step with the Spirit	Grant Phipps
12: July 19 th	Galatians 6:1-10	Bear One Another's Burdens	Mike Gann
13: July 26 th	Galatians 6:11-18	Final Warning and Conclusion	Ron Grebe

Why did God give us
the Law?

What comes to mind
when you think about
the Law of Moses?

Various Views of The Law



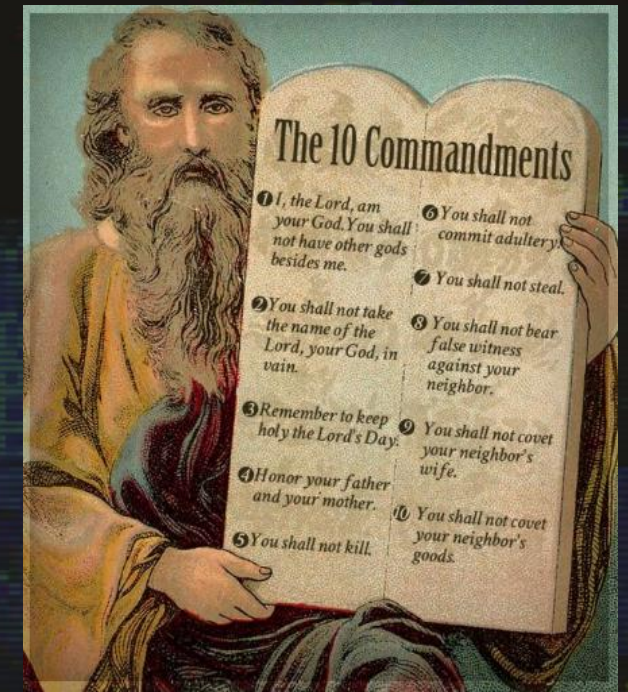
Ten Commandments

- The Ten Commandments are the foundational core of the Torah:
 - Rather than being the entirety of the text, they serve as the **spiritual** and **ethical** umbrella under which all other laws exist.
- Jesus famously summed up the Ten Commandments in Matthew 22:36-40,

³⁶Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

*³⁷And he said to him, "You shall love the **Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall **love your neighbor** as yourself.*

⁴⁰On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."



- Love the Lord your God:
 - Summary of first **four commandments** which deal with our relationship with God (no other Gods, no idols, not take name in vain, keep the Sabbath).
- Love Your Neighbor:
 - Summary of last **six commandments** which deal with each other (honor parents, not kill, not commit adultery, not steal, not lie, not covet).

Moral, Civil, Ceremonial Laws¹

- The Bible does not divide the Law into the groupings of moral, civil, and ceremonial:
 - This **three-fold division** is **man-made** and a theological framework developed by **later scholars and theologians**.
- Moral Law:
 - Universal and **eternal principles** of right and wrong, rooted in the character of God. It primarily concerns humanity's duty to God and neighbor.
- Ceremonial Law:
 - Laws regulating the **religious practices**, rituals, temple sacrifices, priesthood, and dietary restrictions of ancient Israel.
- Civil Law:
 - The **socio-political legislation** designed to govern the nation of Israel as a specific theocratic state.



¹<https://kevinfiske.wordpress.com/tag/threefold-division/>

Moral, Civil, Ceremonial Laws

- JD Greer writes:

*For OT Israel, all three types of laws blended together. Breaking a civil or a ceremonial law was a **moral problem**; conversely, breaking a moral law had a **civil** (and often ceremonial) **consequence**. But they only went hand-in-hand because **Israel was in a unique place historically, as both a nation and a worshiping community.***

“Separation of church and state” wasn’t one of their core tenets.

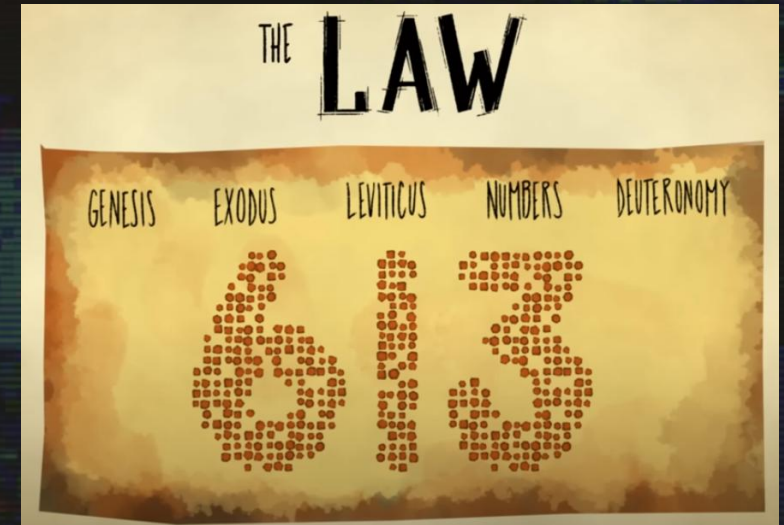


613 Laws

- In Jewish tradition, there are 613 commandments (known as the *mitzvot*) that make up the Mosaic Law.¹
- This traditional count includes:
 - 248 positive commands (**things to do**)
 - 365 negative commands (**things to avoid**)

How could I possibly live under the weight of this on a daily basis?

- The Torah does not list these laws as a numbered, categorized block. Instead, they are **woven throughout** the narrative and legislative texts of the **five books of Moses**. Over the centuries, several rabbinic scholars compiled and organized them into formal list.



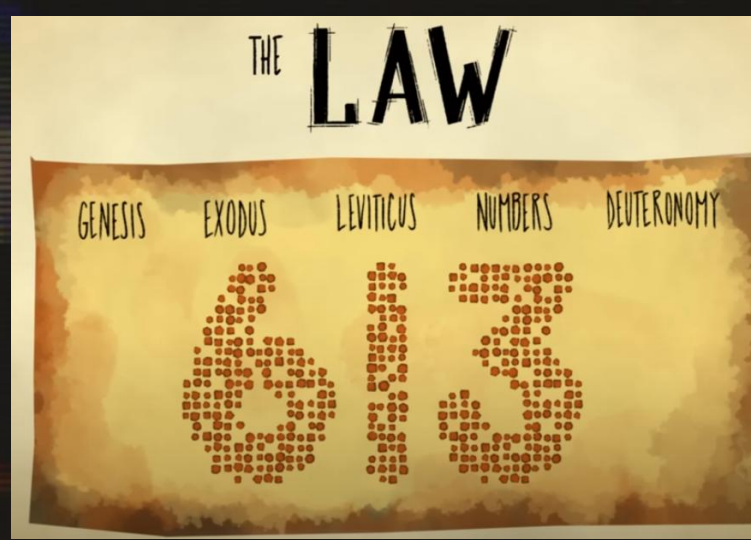
¹https://www.jewfaq.org/613_commandments

(22 commands
before the Ten
Commandments,
591 after the Ten
Commandments)

Genesis
(3)

Exodus
(19 / 110)

Leviticus
(253)



Numbers
(56)

Deuteronomy
(205)

Total is 646 because some commands exist more than once:

- Do not blaspheme
- Sabbath rest
- Fear God
- Circumcise males
- Pray
- Do not to reap the entire field
- Do not do work on first day after the Passover
- Do not do work on seventh day after Passover
- Let land lie fallow in the Sabbatical year
- Do not try a case due to the poverty of one of the parties
- Pass sentence of death by decapitation with the sword
- Thief to pay compensation or (in certain cases) suffer death
- Do not to make idols even for others
- Do not to prophesy in the name of an idol
- Do not to adopt the institutions of idolaters nor their customs
- Do not to make a covenant with the seven (Canaanite, idolatrous) nations
- To redeem the firstborn human male
- To redeem the firstling of an ass
- To set apart the tithe of the produce
- Do not leave part of the Paschal lamb

Kohanim & Levites (30)

Poor & Unfortunate (13)



The Temple & Sacred Objects (33)

About God (10)

Treatment of Gentiles (6)

Injuries & Damages (4)

Sacrifices Offerings (102)

The Torah (6)

Marriage, Divorce & Family (23)

Property & Property Rights (11)

Ritual Purity & Impurity (16)

Signs & Symbols (5)

Forbidden Sexual Relations (25)

Business Practices (14)

Criminal Laws (7)

Lepers & Leprosy (4)

The King (7)

Prayer & Blessings (4)

Times & Seasons (36)

Employees, Servants & Slaves (19)

Idolatry (46)

Punishment & Restitution (24)

Nazarites (12)

Love & Brotherhood (14)

Clothing (3)

Vows, Oaths & Swearing (7)

Prophecy (3)

The Firstborn (4)

Wars (16)

Agriculture & Animals (7)

The Court & Judicial Procedure (36)

The Sabbatical & Jubilee Years (17)

T'rumah, Tithes, & Taxes (24)

Dietary Laws (27)

According to rabbinic calculations, 271 of these laws can still be observed in the absence of a Temple.

Scripture's View of the Law

*¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, **not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.** – Matthew 5:17-18*

¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. ¹¹For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. – James 2:10-11

*Scripture generally refers to the Law
(or the Torah) as an indivisible unit*

Today's Passage – Galatians 3:15-29

The Law and the Promise

*15*To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. *16*Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. *17*This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. *18*For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. *20*Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

*21*Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. *22*But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

*23*Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. *24*So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. *25*But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, *26*for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. *27*For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. *28*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. *29*And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Main Points for Today

1. Paul points out that the Law was not an **amendment** or a **change** to the promise.
 - More importantly, it did not **nullify the promise**. Something promised through Abraham could not be changed by a Law established 430 years later.
 - Was Paul bad at math? Was the promise to Abraham really 430 years earlier?
2. The **inheritance** is based on a promise, not a set of rules. **God granted it to Abraham by means of a promise**, and Gentles (such as the Galatians) inherit the **promise** the same way as Abraham: by believing.¹
3. The law was meant to be **temporary** and we are no longer bound to it. We are now bound to something higher (hint in Galatians 6:2).

¹<https://www.blueletterbible.org/comm/tbs/meaning/gal-3-v15-18.cfm?a=1094015>

The Law and the Promise

Galatians 3:15-18

Galatians 3:15-16

Paul's point isn't really about covenants among men, but to say "How much more certain is a covenant God makes."¹

The Law and the Promise

¹⁵To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one **annuls it or adds to it** once it has been ratified. ¹⁶Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his **offspring**. It does not say, "And to **offsprings**," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your **offspring**," who is Christ.

Sperma – from which a plant germinates or the product of semen (children, offspring, progeny)

- Paul is probably referring to Genesis 3:15 or 22:17-18,

*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her **offspring**; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*

Christ

¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your **offspring** as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your **offspring** shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your **offspring** shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

¹https://www.blueletterbible.org/comm/guzik_david/study-guide/galatians/galatians-3.cfm?a=1094015

Galatians 3:17-18

¹⁷This is what I mean: the law, which came **430 years** afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the **promise** void. ¹⁸For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by **promise**; but God gave it to Abraham by a **promise**.

PATRIARCHS

Promise #1: God's covenant with Abram (Gen 12:1-3, 15:18-21)

Promise #2: to Isaac (Gen 26:1-5)

Promise #3: to Jacob (Gen 46:1-5)

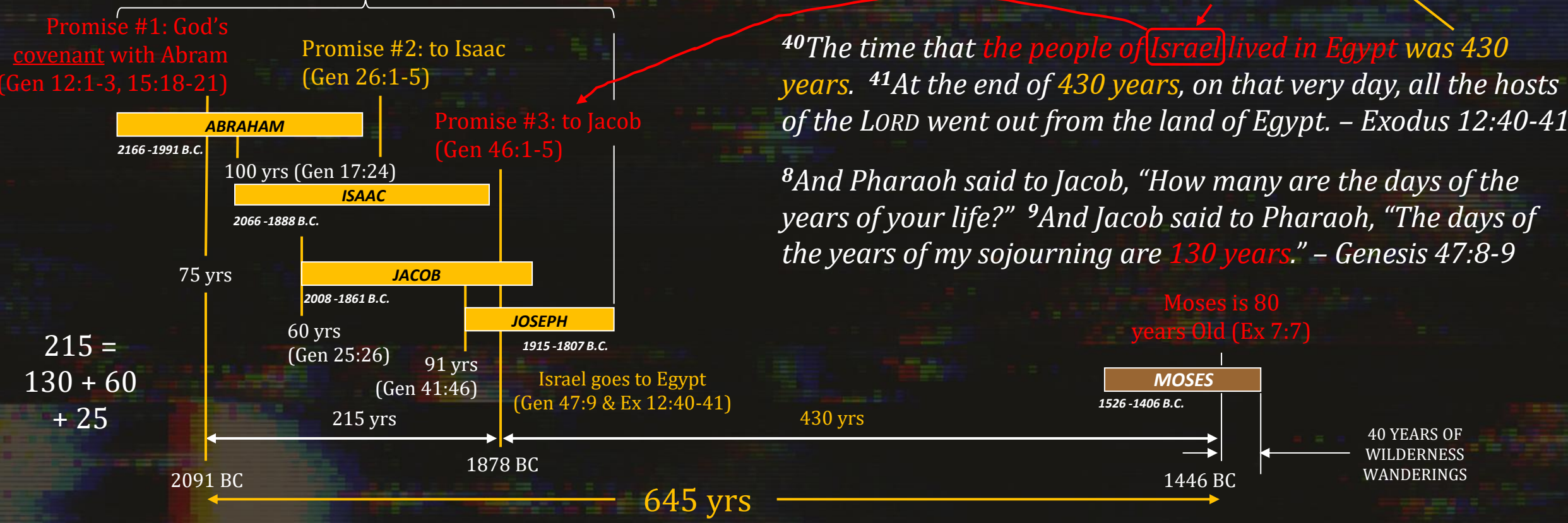
Jacob

⁴⁰The time that the people of **Israel** lived in Egypt was **430 years**. ⁴¹At the end of **430 years**, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. – Exodus 12:40-41

⁸And Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many are the days of the years of your life?" ⁹And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my sojourning are **130 years**." – Genesis 47:8-9

Moses is 80 years Old (Ex 7:7)

$$215 = 130 + 60 + 25$$



Galatians 3:17-18

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If it comes by the law => means you can **earn it**.

If it comes by a promise => it is **unearned** and **must be given to you**.

Why The Law

Galatians 3:19-20

Galatians 3:19-20

Great question. We should really listen to Paul's answer.

³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, **until** the day when Noah entered the ark – Matthew 24:38

19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, **until** the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. **20** Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

Clearest statement that the law was meant to **temporary**.

“The Torah is given for **a specific period of time**, and is then set aside – not because it was a bad thing now happily abolished, but because it was a good thing whose **purpose had now been accomplished**.” – NT Wright¹

¹<https://www.toughquestionsanswered.org/tag/n-t-wright/>

Galatians 3:19-20

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However – God was really the only party in this covenant:

An intermediary is a 3rd party that negotiates between two parties. Paul is probably referring to **Moses** as the intermediary of the law.

¹³For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” – Hebrews 6:13-14

Most commentaries admit that verse 20 is difficult to translate and interpret

Take a Step Back: Galatians 3:15-20

So what is Paul really saying?

The Law and the Promise

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The promise was made to the offspring.

The offspring is Christ.

The law was added until the offspring came.

Question: Has the offspring come?

Therefore: The law is no longer in force.

The law was only intended to be the functioning covenant until the Messiah came.¹

The Purpose of the Law

Galatians 3:21-29

Galatians 3:21-22

The idea is unthinkable.

²¹Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? **Certainly not!** For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²²But the Scripture **imprisoned** everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

sygkleiō – a strong term meaning to lock up securely with no means of escape.

⁹I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰**The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me.** – Romans 7:9-10

“The covenant of law was **inferior** to the covenant of promise.”¹

Key Verses: Galatians 3:23-29

*²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our **guardian** until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*

paidagōgos – a tutor i.e. a guardian and guide of boys temporary.

Our schoolmaster to guide us unto Christ,” with whom we are no longer “shut up” in bondage, but are freemen:¹

- “Tutor,” literally, “pedagogue”: this term, among the Greeks, meant a faithful servant entrusted with the care of a boy from **childhood** to **adulthood**.

The role of the *paidagōgos* was never **permanent** – and it was a great day of deliverance when a boy finally gained freedom from his *paidagōgos*. At that point, the *paidagōgos* had no more authority over the child.²

²John MacArthur, *New Testament Commentary on Galatians*, p. 96

¹Robert Jamieson. *Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*, Logos, p. 331

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- Until:

- Until implies a **temporary** nature.
- The time up to which an event, action, or condition continues. It tells us when something **stops** happening or changes.

- Paul reveals God's perfect plan in chapter 4:

*⁴But when the **fullness of time** had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, **born under the law**, ⁵**to redeem those who were under the law**, so that we might receive adoption as sons. – Galatians 4:4-5*

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- Being a son of Abraham was very important to Jews:

⁷Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. – Galatians 3:7

*³⁹They answered him, “**Abraham is our father.**” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, ⁴⁰but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. – John 8:39-40*

Bonus Question:

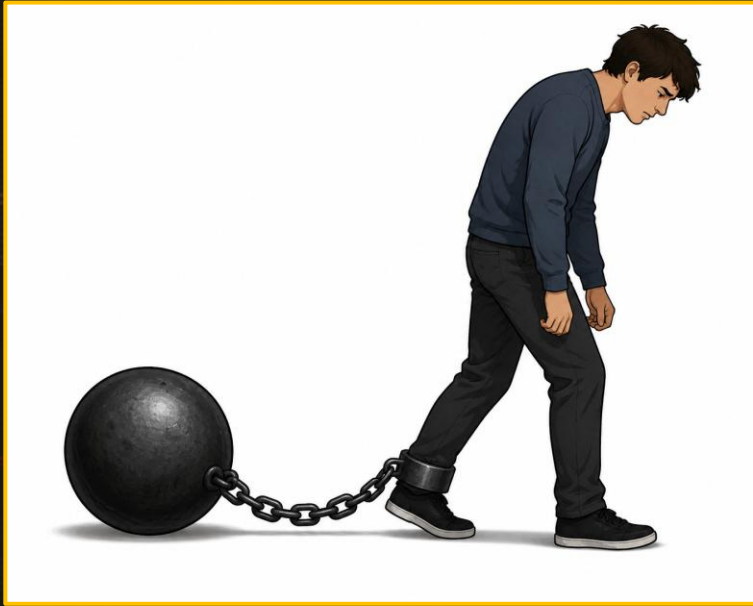
How many sons did Abraham have? 8

Hagar – Ishmael (Gen 16:1-15)

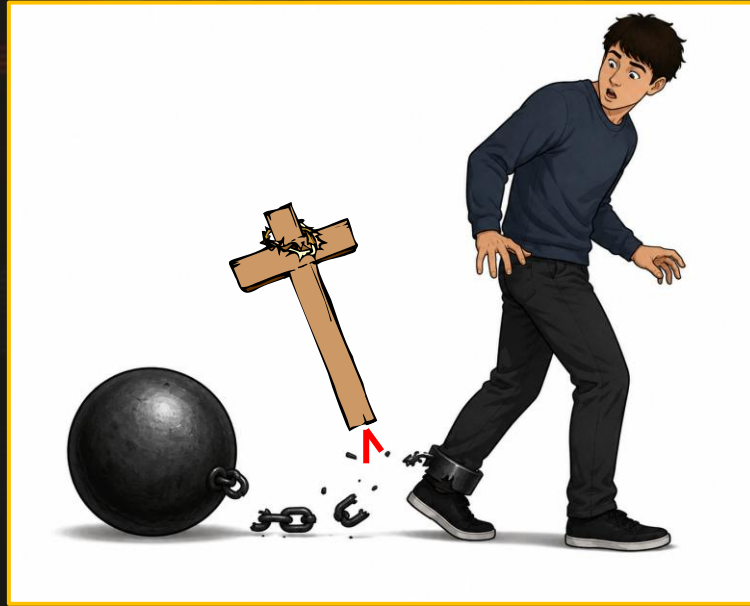
Sarah – Isaac (Gen 21:1-3)

Keturah – Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah (Gen 25:1-2)

Is this Our Response to the Law?



The Law



Galatians 5:1a

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore



Galatians 5:1b

and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Key Verses about The Law

¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, *since you are not under law but under grace.*
– Rom 6:14

⁴Likewise, my brothers, *you also have died to the law* through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God ... ⁶*But now we are released from the law*, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code. – Rom 7:4-6

⁴*For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.* – Rom 10:4

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, *for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.* – Rom 13:8

⁷Now if *the ministry of death*, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end – 2 Cor 3:7

Danger

The real danger for *any Christian's misguided attempts to "keep" the Law* is in its subtle and inevitable progression toward *legalism*, a lifestyle that views righteousness in terms of strict rules and limitations on freedom. Left unchecked by the counsel of Scripture and the leading of the Holy Spirit, *living the Law often leads to neo-Pharisaical* thinking and a life burdened with rules and restrictions designed to please God by works of our flesh. *Sadly, works of the flesh neither please God nor make us holy.*¹

¹https://versebyverseministry.org/bible-answers/on_law_and_liberty_part_2

Why did God give us
the Law?

The Law

*The Old Testament law was given to the ancient nation of Israel, **not to Christians.***

*The law was meant to govern God's covenant people living in the Promised Land. **None of the Old Testament law is binding on Christians today.**¹*

¹<https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-law.html>

The Law

*"It seems a small matter to **mingle the Law and Gospel**, faith and works, but it creates more **mischief** than man's brain can conceive. To mix Law and Gospel not only clouds the knowledge of grace, **it cuts out Christ altogether.**"*

– Martin Luther¹

Today's Passage – Galatians 3:15-29

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once it has been made to one, "And what I have said afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. 18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

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Until What?

21 Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. 22 But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

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Until ... We Have a **New Law**

- In place of the Old Testament law, Christians are under the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2). This law is expressed in John 13:34-35, where Jesus says:¹

*³⁴A **new commandment** I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. – John 13:34-35*

- The law of Christ is not a set of legalistic rules but a **principle of love** that governs the life of a believer.

¹<https://www.gotquestions.org/Book-of-Galatians.html>

Love One Another

- Don't focus on 613 laws from Moses. Focus on 59 specific "one another" commands in the New Testament:

1. Be at peace with one another. (Mark 9:50)
2. Wash one another's feet. (John 13:14)
3. Love one another. (John 13:34)
 - a. Love one another. (John 13:34)
 - b. Love one another. (John 13:35)
 - c. Love one another. (John 15:12)
 - d. Love one another. (John 15:17)
 - e. Love one another with brotherly affection. (Romans 12:10)
 - f. Love each other. (Romans 13:8)
 - g. Abound in love for one another. (1 Thessalonians 3:12)
 - h. Love one another. (1 Thessalonians 4:9)
 - i. Love one another earnestly. (1 Peter 4:8)
 - j. Love one another. (1 John 3:11)
 - k. Love one another. (1 John 3:23)
 - l. Love one another. (1 John 4:7)
 - m. Love one another. (1 John 4:11)
 - n. Love one another. (1 John 4:12)
 - o. Love one another. (2 John 5)
4. Outdo one another in showing honor. (Romans 12:10)
5. Live in harmony with one another. (Romans 12:16)
6. Let us not pass judgement on one another. (Romans 14:13)
7. Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you. (Romans 15:7)
8. Instruct one another. (Romans 15:14)
 - a. Teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom. (Colossians 3:16)
9. Greet one another with a holy kiss. (Romans 16:16)
 - a. Greet one another with a holy kiss. (1 Corinthians 16:20)
 - b. Greet one another with a holy kiss. (2 Corinthians 13:12)
 - c. Greet one another with the kiss of love. (1 Peter 5:14)
10. When you come together to eat, wait for one another. (1 Corinthians 11:33)

11. Have the same concern for one another. (1 Corinthians 12:25)
12. Through love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13)
 - a. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another. (1 Peter 4:10)
13. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. (Galatians 5:26)
14. Bear one another's burdens. (Galatians 6:2)
 - a. Bearing with one another. (Colossians 3:13)
 - b. With patience, bearing with one another in love. (Ephesians 4:2)
15. Be kind to one another. (Ephesians 4:32)
16. Forgiving one another. (Ephesians 4:32)
 - a. If one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other. (Colossians 3:13)
17. Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. (Ephesians 5:19)
18. Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. (Ephesians 5:21)
19. In humility count others more significant than yourselves. (Philippians 2:3)
 - a. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another. (1 Peter 5:5)
20. Do not lie to one another. (Colossians 3:9)
21. Encourage one another. (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
 - a. Encourage one another. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
 - b. Encouraging one another. (Hebrews 10:25)
22. Build one another up. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
23. Exhort one another every day. (Hebrews 3:13)
24. Stir up one another to love and good works. (Hebrews 10:24)
25. Do not speak evil against one another. (James 4:11)
26. Do not grumble against one another. (James 5:9)
27. Confess your sins to one another. (James 5:16)
28. Pray for one another. (James 5:16)
29. Have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love [for one another]. (1 Peter 3:8)
 - a. Have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love [for one another]. (1 Peter 3:8)
30. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. (1 Peter 4:9)

²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

– 1 John 4:20-21

For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

– Rom 13:8

Summary

Freedom in Christ

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore,
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

– Galatians 5:1

Book of Galatians

Freedom in Christ

Week	Section	Topic	Teacher
1: May 3 rd	Galatians Intro	Paul's Background & Introduction	Ron Grebe
2: May 10 th	Galatians 1:1-10	Greeting & No Other Gospel	Ron Grebe
3: May 17 th	Galatians 1:11-24	Paul Called by God	Stew Bruner
4: May 24 th	Galatians 2:1-10	Paul Accepted by the Apostles	Adam Collins
5: May 31 st	Galatians 2:11-21	Paul Opposes Peter	Mike Gann
6: June 7 th	Galatians 3:1-14	By Faith or Works of the Law	Stew Bruner
7: June 14 th	Galatians 3:15-29	The Law and the Promise	Ron Grebe
8: June 21 st	Galatians 4:1-20	Sons and Heirs & Paul's Concern	Mike Gann
9: June 28 th	Galatians 4:21-31	Example of Hagar and Sarah	Grant Phipps
10: July 5 th	Galatians 5:1-15	Christ Has Set Us Free	Ron Grebe
11: July 12 th	Galatians 5:16-26	Keep in Step with the Spirit	Grant Phipps
12: July 19 th	Galatians 6:1-10	Bear One Another's Burdens	Mike Gann
13: July 26 th	Galatians 6:11-18	Final Warning and Conclusion	Ron Grebe

GALATIANS

NO OTHER GOSPEL