Our Identity as Sons of Abraham and Sons of God

Galatians 3

8 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.”

9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.

**14**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.

**15**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. **16**Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, “And to your seed,” that is, Christ.

**God’s plan all along, not an afterthought. Israel was chosen to demonstrate God’s plan to the world, but He never intended to save only them When this was spoken, Israel was not even a nation yet.**

**READ FROM GENESIS 15**

**“of faith” – product of faith, came as a result of faith**

**Acts 2:38-39 38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”**

**Romans 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;**

**17**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. **18**For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.

**19**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. **20**Now a mediator is not for one *party only*; whereas God is *only* one. **21**Is 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.**22**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.

The law was given to ISRAEL, because they had been in Egyptian slavery for 400+ years. They didn’t know how to live free, and indeed would have self destructed had the law not been given. EXAMPLE: Persons who spend long time in jail, often repeat offend just to be back under guard, because they are unable to deal with living free.

***Since the trust becomes operative before the will takes effect at death, the revocable trust takes precedence over the will when there is a conflict between the trust document and the will.***

Acts 7: 52 Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become; 53 you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it.”

The Ark of Covenant – Mercy Seat watched over by Seraphim angels

In Genesis 15:9-21 God is the initiator and only party to seal or guarantee the covenant. Abraham was asleep, as God alone passed through the sacrifice.

We are all condemned by the law, bound in sin and “transgressions”

Universalism tries to tell us that we are all “ a child of God”, but this isn’t true. It’s only those who are “of faith”, in Christ alone.

**23**But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. **24**Therefore the Law has become our tutor ***to lead us* to Christ**, so that we may be justified by faith. **25**But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

**26**For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. **27**For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **28**There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. **29**And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.

BABY SITTER, GUARDIAN,

EXAMPLE: Boys & Girls Club Field Trips

The baptism spoken of here is not simply water baptism, but the spiritual reality that happens in the soul and spirit, PRIOR to the symbolic act.

CHAPTER 4:1 Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, 2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father.

3 So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world.

4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, 5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

In a legal trust, the grantor (FATHER) often stipulates restrictions on how the proceeds can be distributed – at a certain age, a particular milestone (ex. College graduation, marriage, etc.). Sometimes the recipient gets part of the assets at one point, with a portion reserved for later (ex. Retirement age, etc.)

The LAW was a form of these restrictions, to keep the people of Israel under “guardians or managers”

As the ‘first-born” Son, Jesus was appointed “Trustee or Protector” of the trust, and took away the restrictions that the Law demanded. Now we are no longer under “guardianship or managers” of the Law, but free as Sons of Abraham, and Sons of God, and Joint-Heirs with Christ.

When we receive Jesus, by faith, we receive adoption by God as His sons and daughters, and we receive the promised Holy Spirit, spoken of in the book of Joel and again in Acts 2.

In adoption, the parents “choose” the child. The responsibility is on the adoptive parents to make that child one of their very own. The child only has to accept the love of the parent, and receive them as his own.