



Pastor Doug Wilson · BETHANY - A PLACE OF NEW BEGINNINGS  
The Eighth Week of a New Year! · February 21, 2021

### GALATIANS 3 (TNIV)

<sup>15</sup> Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human **COVENANT that has been duly established**, so it is in this case. <sup>16</sup> **The PROMISES** were spoken to **Abraham and to his seed**. Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," [GENESIS 12:7; 13:15; 24:7] meaning **ONE person, who is CHRIST**. <sup>17</sup> What I mean is this: The law, **introduced 430 years later**, does not set aside the **COVENANT previously established by God** and thus do away with **the PROMISE**. <sup>18</sup> For if **THE INHERITANCE** depends on the law, then it no longer depends on **the PROMISE**; but **GOD IN HIS GRACE GAVE IT TO ABRAHAM THROUGH A PROMISE**.

<sup>19</sup> What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions **until the Seed to whom the PROMISE referred had come**. The law was given through angels and entrusted to **a mediator [that is, Moses]**.

<sup>20</sup> A mediator, however, implies **MORE THAN ONE PARTY**; but **GOD IS ONE**.

<sup>21</sup> Is the law, therefore, opposed to **the PROMISES of God?** Absolutely not! **For if a law had been given THAT COULD IMPART LIFE**, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. <sup>22</sup> But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, **so that what was PROMISED, being given through faith IN JESUS CHRIST, might be given to those who believe.**

<sup>23</sup> Before **the coming of this faith**, we were held in custody under the law, locked up **until the faith that was to come would be revealed**. <sup>24</sup> So the law was put in charge of us **UNTIL CHRIST CAME** that we might be justified **by faith**. <sup>25</sup> Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

<sup>26</sup> So **IN CHRIST JESUS**

**YOU ARE ALL CHILDREN OF GOD through faith,**  
<sup>27</sup> for **ALL OF YOU** who were **BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST**  
**have CLOTHED YOURSELVES WITH CHRIST**.

<sup>28</sup> There is **neither Jew nor Gentile,**  
**neither slave nor free,**  
**neither male nor female,**

for **YOU ARE ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS**.

<sup>29</sup> If **YOU BELONG TO CHRIST**,  
then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to **the PROMISE**.

**Paul wants us to understand that Christ\* changes \_\_\_\_\_.**

\*Christ = the Messiah, the Spirit-Anointed King

GOD'S PROMISES > A GRACIOUS GIFT GIVEN > COVENANT > INHERITANCE > LIFE/SPIRIT

**1. Our extravagantly-generous God \_\_\_\_\_ keeps His \_\_\_\_\_.**

LUKE 24:49 (NIRV)

**I AM GOING TO SEND YOU WHAT MY FATHER HAS PROMISED.**

But for now, stay in the city.

**STAY THERE UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED POWER FROM HEAVEN."**

ACTS 1:12-5 (NIRV)

<sup>2</sup> ...Before Jesus left, he gave orders to the apostles he had chosen.

He did this through the Holy Spirit.

After his suffering and death, he appeared to them.

In many ways he proved that he was alive.

He appeared to them over a period of 40 days.

During that time he spoke about God's kingdom.

<sup>4</sup> One day Jesus...gave them a command.

"Do not leave Jerusalem," he said.

**"WAIT FOR THE GIFT MY FATHER PROMISED.**

You have heard me talk about it.

<sup>5</sup> John baptized with water.

But **IN A FEW DAYS YOU WILL BE BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."**

ACTS 2 (NIRV)

<sup>23</sup> Long ago God planned that Jesus would be handed over to you.

With the help of evil people, you put Jesus to death.

You nailed him to the cross.

<sup>32</sup> God has raised this same Jesus back to life.

We are all witnesses of this.

<sup>33</sup> JESUS has been given a place of honor at the right hand of God.

He **HAS RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM THE FATHER.**

**THIS IS WHAT GOD HAD PROMISED.**

**IT IS JESUS WHO HAS POURED OUT WHAT YOU NOW SEE AND HEAR.**

## 2. Sometimes God's promise-keeping comes \_\_\_\_ than you'd \_\_\_\_!

ca. 2100 BC \_\_\_\_\_ (*Jesus is the SEED OF ABRAHAM*)

ca. 1400 BC \_\_\_\_\_ ("Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses...", HEBREWS 3:3; Jesus: "If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me..." JOHN 5:46)

ca. 1000 BC \_\_\_\_\_ (*Jesus is the SON OF DAVID, the SPIRIT-ANOINTED KING*)

AD 30 or 33 \_\_\_\_\_ '**Death, Resurrection, Ascension & Spirit-Outpouring** (*Jesus is both the SPIRIT-ANOINTED KING and the OUTPOURER OF THE SPIRIT*)

AD 48 Paul writes \_\_\_\_\_ (GAL. 3:26-29)  
(so that "the SPIRIT-ANOINTED KING would be formed in us"!)

AD 2021 & beyond \_\_\_\_\_ **continue the mandate of Jesus!** (*in the Spirit of Jesus, ACTS 16:7; "of Christ," ROM. 8:9; "of his son," GAL. 4:6*)

"**Patience! patience! You are always in a hurry, but God is not.**"

CHARLES SPURGEON

Charles H. Spurgeon, "The Complete Works of C. H. Spurgeon, Volume 14: Sermons 788 to 847", p.118, Delmarva Publications, Inc. (2015).

PSALM 90:4 (NIV)

*A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.*

2 PETER 3:8 (NIV)

*But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.*

GALATIANS 3:16-17 (NIV)

*The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise.*

GALATIANS 4:4-5 (GNT)

*But when the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might become God's children.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:11 (NIV)

*He has made everything beautiful in its time.*

GALATIANS 4:6 (CEB)

*Because you are sons and daughters, God sent THE SPIRIT OF HIS SON into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!"*

ROMANS 8:9 (NIV)

*And if anyone does not have THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST, they do not belong to Christ.*

## 3. Like it or not, we're \_\_\_\_ in this \_\_\_\_! To put it another way, \_\_\_\_ FOLLOWERS OF JESUS ARE "\_\_\_\_ IN CHRIST JESUS"!