

Tutor's & Toga's

I. Slide1,2 **Intro:** Galatians - *Tutor's & Toga's*

A. Slide3 Sometimes when developers purchase a property it is not for the **building** on it but for **the site** itself. Case in point on the corner of Ynez/RC rd. Bill Bachelor (Cent.21 Reality) took the building to the ground & is starting over. [It was here in 1985 info center. 3 lakes]

1. Compare what **God** is thinking, when He has a renovation in mind in our lives...to us improving **our own** lives. It's like us sweeping the floor of a Slide4 warehouse...when it's slated for the wrecking ball? When we become God's, the **old life** is over. He makes all things **new**.

II. Slide5 **WHAT THE LAW COULDN'T DO (15-18)** *read only vs by vs*

A. (read 14,15) Let's pick up on **the promise** in vs.14.

1. God's promise/covenant to Abraham *that all the peoples would be blessed through him*. Has been fulfilled by Christ.

B. Slide6a Remember some of God's covenants are **conditional** (The Mosaic/Law i.e. *Blessing or Cursing* based on obedience or lack of it) & some **unconditional** (Abrahamic, blessing all families).

1. When they're **unconditional** not even our **disobedience** can invalidate His promise
2. Though we fail to keep His **Law**, God never fails to keep His **Word**.
 - a) His promises are **timeless & trustworthy**.

C. Paul illustrates his point using a **common covenant** or contract/formal agreement/pact/or treaty.

1. His point was that such a contract was **binding & was not changed**.
2. They are **unalterable**. And if that is true for **human contracts/relationships**, how much more when **God** draws up the **document**...like the one He drew up w/ Abraham.

D. Slide6b (16) **Seed** – Here we have a **collective noun**.

1. A collective noun is a noun that refers to *a group of people or things considered as a single unit*.
2. **For instance:** we talk about the furniture in our home (sing). **Or** an audience (sing). [a crowd, clergy, a jury, etc.]
3. This **seed** was referring to **Christ**, **but** we'll see **we** are included in that seed also (vs.29)
 - a) **Slide7** John Stott, Such was **God's promise**. It was **free & unconditional**. As we might say, there were **no strings attached**. There was **no works to do, no laws to obey, no merit to establish, no conditions to fulfill**. God simply said, *"I will give you a Seed. To your seed I will give the land, & in your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed."* His **promise** was like a **will**, freely giving the inheritance to a future generation. And like a human **will**, this divine promise is **unalterable**. It is **still** in force today, for it has **never** been rescinded. God does not make **promises** in order to break them. He has never annulled or modified his will.¹

E. (17,18) You could hear the Judaizer's say, *"Ok, maybe Abraham was justified by faith. But that was before the Mosaic Law was given at Sinai. Once the Law came, it became the vehicle for salvation & superseded everything that came before it."* Charles Swindoll, pg.60

1. **430 years** – The Law, coming centuries later, **didn't** change the plan. On the contrary, **it was part of the plan**.
 - a) It was to **drive us to God's gracious promise & into the fold of the covenant community**. Charles Swindoll, pg.61

III. **Slide8 WHAT THE LAW COULD DO (19-22)**

- A. **The Laws Purpose (19-21)**
- B. Paul, **does the Law have any value or goodness at all?**
- C. The Law would be a bad thing **IF** it were given to bring spiritual life & then failed to do so. [but no law can *bring life*]
- D. **Because of transgressions** – there's the **purpose**.
 1. **Slide9a** As one writer put it, *"Satan would have us to prove ourselves holy by the Law, which God gave to prove us sinners."* Andrew Jukes

¹ The Message of Galatians, pg.88,89.

2. “God wanted to provide His people w/a **clear statement** of His standards, w/**unequivocal definitions** of righteousness & sin, so that when they failed to meet His perfect requirements, they would seek **His grace**.” Swindoll
- E. **Slide9b The promise** is superior to **the Law** even in the very manner of its declaration.
1. In the case of **Abraham** God Himself spoke the promises directly; whereas the **giving of the law** was through *intermediaries* on both sides (**God** being represented by **angels** & **the people** by **Moses**)
- F. (21) **Is God inconsistent or in conflict w/Himself?** [His law vs. His promises]
1. **The Law** shows us our **sin** (21), **the Gospel** shows us the way to **escape** (22).
- G. **Death Row** (22) *the scripture has confined all under sin*
- H. By looking at just the 10 commandments. **Jesus** explained that not only **outward conformity** is required, **but** also **absolute purity** of *thought, motives, etc* was also required
1. Thus we have **broken them all**. We’ve all lied.
We’ve all put **people, possessions, & priorities** ahead of God.
Out of **discontentment** we’ve all wanted something **that someone else had**.
 2. **We can’t keep the Law...but praise God that Someone kept it for us.**
 - a) *The law was not to make men better but to make man worse; that is to show them their sin, that they might be humbled, terrified, bruised, & broken, & by this driven to seek grace, & so to come to that blessed Seed.* Martin Luther
 - b) Catherine Booth said, *What the law tried to do by a restraining power from without, the gospel does by an inspiring power from within.*² [school/uniforms. church/dress]

IV. **Slide10 PRISON & PEDAGOGUE (23-25)**

- A. **Ex-Con’s for Christ** (23)
- B. **Slide11** We often forget the grace of God did more than just **rescue us** from bondage, **it brought us into** God’s family.
1. Some **Anti Human Trafficking groups** deal with Rescues...other groups deal with the victims **restoration**. (some both, Destiny Rescue)

² William & Catherine Booth, Christian History, no.26.

2. Slide12,13 Most Pet Rescue places only **rescue**...they don't **adopt** the pets themselves.
3. But **God adopts** whomever He **rescues**.
 - a) Remember the **Israelites** under *Egyptian bondage*? God didn't free them so they could **run around** on their own...He freed them so they could **be His own**. Read Ex6:6,7
- C. **Kept under guard** – kept in custody. Protected by military guards.
 1. We were behind the bars of **the Law**, powerless to do anything **but sin...until faith** came.
 2. **But the Law** did more than just imprison us...it also **disciplined us**.
- D. **Tutor-Free** (24,25)
- E. Slide14a **Tutor**/Pedagogue [Pie-dog-gaGOS] (paidagōgos) [pais *child* + agōgos *leader*]

A **slave** who leads a child to school. A **moral caretaker**.

 1. Slide14b This tutor, guardian, child-custodian, **or** child-attendant, **was a slave** employed by *wealthy Greeks or Romans* to have the responsibility of 1 of their children.³
 2. He was responsible for **watching over his behavior** wherever he went & for conducting him to & from school. **Usually from 6-16 years of age**. He **did not teach him** (*schoolmaster* is a poor translation). LKGNT
 3. **Paul's point?** This responsibility **ceased** when the child entered his position as a **son**, becoming an acknowledged adult.
 - a) **The son**, until he was of age, was no better off than **a slave**. *He was under the direction of others.*
 4. Slide15 **The law** is a **tutor**, **not** a Savior, a **mirror**, not a **cleanser**. www
 5. **The law** is meant to **lead** the sinner to faith in Christ **by** showing the impossibility of any other way.
 - a) It's **the sheep dog**, to fetch the sheep to the shepherd.
 - b) It's **the burning heat** which drives the traveler to the shadow of the great rock in a **weary land**. Spurgeon

³ Linguistic Ket to the Greek NT

6. Slide16 The Pedagogue was often **harsh** to the point of **cruelty**, & is usually depicted in ancient drawings w/a rod or cane in his hand.

a) **The Law** constantly **struck us** w/its **rod** of reproof when we fell short of keeping God's standards.

b) *With its whippings, the Law draws us to Christ.* (Luther)

F. **The Law** then as a **Prison** & a **Pedagogue**...did its job.

1. It showed we needed **Someone** who could **keep the Law** perfectly, **break the prison bars** forever, & **relieve the pedagogue** of his job.

V. Slide17 **FREEDOM & FAMILY (26-29)**

A. Slide18a New Status...Sons (26) *Now Paul makes it personal.*

1. When the kids were young I'd *change my identity*...I used to try to scare them by saying...w/a drawn out scary voice...*I'm not Brian! Stop dad, I'm not Dad!*

B. Slide18b But I do have a confession to make...back in 1980 I really was given a *new identity*.

1. *It wasn't* a *Witness Protection Program*...for Jesus wanted all to know about my *New Identity*.

2. *It wasn't* an *Identity Theft* which is so infamous today.

a) *Identity-Theft* is the fastest growing crime in America. 17.6 mill Americans (7% of US residents age 16 & older) were victims in 2014. [BJS, Bureau of Justice Statistics]

3. *I didn't* steal this *new identity*...it was given to me.

a) *Actually I was* given a new name, a new family, a new home, a new life, yes a completely *new Identity*. *And you* have a *New Identity* also.

C. Jesus is uniquely & exclusively *the Son of God*, equal w/the Father from all eternity.

1. Slide18c-e All the more impressive is Paul's declaration, that *we're sons of God, His children*

2. John 1:12 *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.*

3. *And what is the only way to get into* this relationship? via *faith!*

a) So Paul uses *in Christ* 172 times. [Meaning *participation in & union with JC*]

b) *A false gospel* then robs you of **salvation** & of **membership** in the family of God.

D. **New Clothes** (27)

E. (27) In **baptism** we are *initiated, crowned, killed, chosen, embraced, washed, adopted, gifted, reborn, and thereby sent forth and redeemed. We are identified as 1 of God's own.*

1. For Paul **baptism** w/its symbolic association w/the *death, burial, & resurrection* of Christ, **models** justification, **although** it can never **effect** it.

F. **Slide19a/b Put on Christ** – Donald Campbell points out, *In the Roman society when a youth comes of age he was given a special toga which admitted him to the full rights of the family & state & indicated he was a grown-up son.* *Toga, Toga, Toga.* John Belushi, *Animal House* 1978

1. So **we** w/the Galatians **set aside** the old garments of the law & **don** Christ's robe of righteousness.

G. **All one** (28)

H. **Slide20** By instinct the **locust** knows it has to be in **community** with other locusts. When that occurs, they are able to topple kingdoms. The wisdom of the locust is the wisdom that tells us *we must have community.*⁴

I. **The Law** definitely **leveled the playing field...** & excluded **everyone** as **sinners**.

1. The gospel welcomes **everyone** regardless of **race, social standing, or gender.**

2. **Each group is equally loved & valued by God.**

3. A believing **master** held no higher spiritual position **than** the believing **slave** he owned. (i.e. Philemon)

a) **Slide21** *Aristotle said that some people were only fit to be slaves. I do not contradict him. But I reject slavery because I see no men fit to be masters.*⁵ C.S.Lewis

4. **Ps:** When we say that Christ has **abolished** these distinctions, we mean **not** that they **do not exist, but that** they **do not matter.**

J. **Heirs** (29)

K. **Note...**the Galatians were **already heirs...** why try to keep the Law to *be saved*, when they've already received a **promised inheritance?**

L. **Slide22** **The American Red Cross** was gathering supplies, medicine, clothing, food and the like for the suffering people of Biafra (bē-afra /a secessionist state in Eastern Nigeria). Inside one of

⁴ Haddon Robinson, *The Wisdom of Small Creatures, Preaching Today, Tape No.93.*

⁵ C. S. Lewis in *Equality, from Present Concerns. Christianity Today, Vol.33, no.2.*

the boxes that showed up at the collecting depot one day was a letter. It said, "*We have recently been converted and because of our conversion we want to try to help. We won't ever need these again. Can you use them for something?*" Inside the box were several ***Ku Klux Klan sheets***. The sheets were cut down to strips and eventually used to bandage the wounds of Africans. It could hardly be more dramatic - from **symbols of hatred** to **bandages of love** because of *the new creation*.