

THE LAW DID NOT MODIFY THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

(Galatians 3:15-18)

I. PAUL DEFENDS HIS AUTHORITY AND THE ORIGINATION OF HIS GOSPEL (Gal. 1 & 2)

II. PAUL DEFENDS JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH (Gal. 3 & 4)

A. Proven by the Galatian EXPERIENCE (3:1-5)

B. Proven by the EXAMPLE of Abraham (3:6-9)

C. Proven by the EFFECTS of the LAW of Moses (3:10-12)

D. Proven by the EFFICIENT REDEEMER who delivered us from the curse of the law (3:13-14)

E. Proven by the ENDURING and UNCONDITIONAL nature of the Abrahamic Covenant (3:15-18)

1. Paul was essentially relating how _____ viewed covenants in his day, "*Brethren, I speak in the _____ of men.*" (3:15)

2. A few points regarding human covenants or contracts between consenting parties...

a. once confirmed or ratified it was a _____ agreement

b. once confirmed it could not be set _____ or _____

c. once confirmed one party could _____ change or alter its conditions without the _____ of the other party

* What were these legalists probably saying to the Galatian believers?

3. The PROMISES of the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 12:1-3)

a. the Personal promises included:

b. the National promises included:

c. the Universal promise is:

4. God confirmed His promise to Abraham in two ways...
- a. first by the vision of the _____ and the burning _____ (Gen. 15:8-18)
 - b. second by His own _____, where He swore by _____ (Gen. 22:15-18; Heb. 6:13)

5. In 3:16 Paul argued strongly that the word "*seed*" (Gk- *sperma*) was in the _____ and not the _____.

6. The law which came hundreds of years later could _____ God's promise to Abraham, which was justification by faith, nor His promise of the _____ to the future Gentiles. (3:17)

* If human contracts and covenants are by their very nature unchangeable, how much more immutable are God's covenants?

* What is Paul probably referring to when he used the word "*confirmed*" in 3:17?

7. The "*inheritance*" denotes the spiritual _____ contained within the universal aspects of the Abrahamic Covenant. (3:18)

8. The Judaizers probably argued that _____ to the law was necessary to gain this "*inheritance*;" but Paul argued that the addition of _____ to _____ would actually make void the whole concept of "*promise*."

* What personal assurance can you glean from this passage?