



Free From the Law **Galatians 3:23-29**

I. THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW (Verses 23-25)

For the Jew only:

- It was the Jew alone who entered into a two party agreement with the LORD (*Ex.19:8; Rom.6:14*).
- The Law was temporary and inferior to the law of faith. It is now obsolete.

The purpose:

- The Law was like a prison from which there was no escape until Christ (*Is.61:1; Lk.4; Rom.11:32; vs.19,23*).
- God placed the Law as a custodian of the Jew to ensure he behaved as He desired (*vs.19, 24*).

II. THE PRINCIPLE OF FAITH (Verses 26&27)

For the Christian:

- You became a son through faith in Christ (*vs.26*).
- You were made one with Christ through death of self and resurrection to life (*vs.27; Rom.6:3-6; Eph:1-3*).
- The righteousness of Christ has been given to you like a royal robe that cannot be removed (*Is.61:10*).

III. THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM (vs. 28 & 29)

- There is now no distinction of persons to those in Christ: you are either a born again believer in Christ or you are of the multitude of the heathen (*vs.28*).
- You have been given the promise of the Holy Spirit and are now free to live for God and do His will through His indwelling power (*Gal. 3:14, 29*).

Application

So what does this all mean to me? As a born again believer in Jesus Christ does this mean the Hebrew Scriptures have no meaning or relevance to me? Certainly not! Paul says “What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? Certainly not! (Rom.7:7)

I refer to the Hebrew Bible as such because its 39 books contain much more than the Old Covenant of the Law. In fact note that the Law of Moses, the 10 commandments, occupies only 1 chapter out of 932 chapters in the Hebrew Bible.

The Hebrew Bible has great meaning for the born again Christian. It shows us by numerous accounts and descriptions who God is and what He is like. We find that God is a loving, kind, merciful and faithful God. We also see that He is a God of righteousness and justice who abounds in His mercy towards believing sinners but who deals harshly with those who are arrogant and rebellious.

Further, the Hebrew Scriptures point forward to the Lord Jesus and His coming. He permeates every book. They speak volumes of how wonderful He is. The Song of Solomon is a bit of a mystery to me but just think of some of its descriptions of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is “my beloved”, the “fairest of 10,000”, the “lily of the Valley” and the “rose of Sharon”.

And you are secure and accepted in Him by faith. So why would you go back to the prison of law. It’s like a dog returning to his vomit or more correctly to the vomit of another dog. Don’t be conned by those peddling a false Christianity!

You have been set free from all this and given the promise of the Holy Spirit dwelling within you. You have been set free to live for God. You have been set free to do His will. And the Holy Spirit enables you to do so. He takes of God’s entire word and makes it alive to you. Believe it!