

# Galatians: A Panoramic View (2)

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# Agenda: Galatians

- Prologue: Biblical Theology
- Background
- Structure
- Key Theological Themes

# Structure of Galatians

- Opening (1:1-5)
- **Body**
  - Problem (1:6-10)
  - Apostolic Defense (1:11-2:14)
  - Thesis / Solution (2:15-21)
  - Arguments (3:1-5:12)
- Closing (6:11-18)

# Arguments (3:1-5:12)

- Argument from conversion experience (3:1-5)
- Argument from Abrahamic Covenant (3:6-14)
- Argument from Mosaic Law (3:15-29)
- Argument through Illustration (4:1-7)
- Pastoral Appeal (4:8-20)
- Argument from Allegory (4:21-5:1)
- Solemn Warning (5:2-12)

Precedence  
Purpose

# Arguments (3:1-5:12) – Contrasts

- Argument from conversion experience (3:1-5) Spirit / Flesh
- Argument from Abrahamic Covenant (3:6-14) Faith / Works
- Argument from Mosaic Law (3:15-29) Promise / Curse
- Argument through Illustration (4:1-7) Son / Slave
- Pastoral Appeal (4:8-20) God / gods
- Argument from Allegory (4:21-5:1) Free / Slave\*
- Solemn Warning (5:2-13) Christ / Circumcision

\* Promise / Flesh, Sarah / Hagar, Zion / Sinai, Jerusalem above / below, Isaac / Ishmael, Spirit / Flesh

A word cloud featuring the following words and phrases:

- Largest Words:** Christ, Spirit, faith, God, Abraham, Jesus, promise, son, free-woman, one, might, hear, come, Jesus, free, God, born, sons, Abraham, Spirit, faith.
- Other Prominent Words:** law, freedom, promise, faith, Spirit, God, Christ, Jesus, Abraham, son, free, born, sons, Abraham, Spirit, faith, love, coming, promises, mother, life, Abba, truth, whole, receive, the, have, put, sent, Isaac, reap, while, the, Son, desires, are, led, love, coming, promises, mother, life, Abba, truth, whole, receive, the, have, put, sent, Isaac, reap, while, the, Son, desires, are, led.
- Smaller Words:** believe, hearts, fullness, But, when, blessed, its, passions, children, another, For, the, that, we, sent, the, walk, that, the, law, as, were, advantage, revealed, and, one, might, come, then, an, order, made, to, child, blessing, Now, heirs, has, set, also, justified, Jesus, And, if, For, freedom, But, the, word, goodness, is, love, forth, working, baptized, into, long, flesh, offspring, rather, to, gave, things, use, let, fruit, adoption, receive, eagerly, wait, cross, eternal, Spirit, through, sows, kingdom, brothers, along, crucified, know, Jesus, have, grace, time, redeem, law, And, self-control, obeying, the, Gentiles, Jerusalem, crying, fulfilled, called, righteous, God, But, the, neighbor, hope, but, the, Father, Jesus, you, peace, by, hearing, love, serve, man, according, patience, many, but, only, kindness, faith, For, mean, but, God, begun, gentleness, faithfulness, mean, kindness, faith, For, promises, mother, life, Abba, truth, whole, receive, the, have, put, sent, Isaac, reap, while, the, Son, desires, are, led.

A word cloud featuring various terms in shades of brown, tan, and black. The most prominent words are 'flesh', 'works', 'law', 'slave', 'circumcision', 'son', 'born', 'slave-woman', 'children', 'desires', 'Cursed', 'inherit', 'everyone', 'longer', 'Mount', 'sin', 'Hagar', 'Sinaï', 'deceived', 'worthless', 'back', 'nature', 'are', 'perfected', 'hanged', 'on', 'curse', 'For', 'the', 'not', 'abide', 'keep', 'envy', 'you', 'bite', 'guardians', 'gods', 'away', 'by', 'the', 'sensuality', 'accepts', 'accept', 'Circumcision', 'slaves', 'present', 'want', 'written', 'to', 'the', 'world', 'know', 'you', 'were', 'rivalries', 'idolatry', 'dissensions', 'law. Now the', 'imprisoned', 'submit', 'our guardian', 'Scripture imprisoned', 'are under', 'sows', 'opportunity', 'conceited', 'jealousy', 'envying', 'sexual', 'reap', 'bearing', 'turn', 'flesh', 'will', 'Arabia', 'orgies', 'enmity', 'managers', 'according', 'sorcery', 'impurity', 'elementary', 'to a', 'drunkenness', 'transgressions', 'yoke', 'immorality', 'fits', 'consumed', 'man', 'justified by', 'whole', 'of slavery', 'are severed', 'enslaved', 'different', 'weak guardian', 'One', 'everything', 'obligated', 'principles', 'anger', 'Jerusalem', 'watch', 'devour', 'corruption', 'flesh persecuted', 'captive', 'you did', 'rely', 'fallen', 'evident', 'strife', 'like', 'Cast', 'that', 'he', 'Book', 'every', 'divisions', 'everybody', 'sin', 'Hagar. Now corresponds', 'testify', 'Mount', 'longer', 'things', 'slavery', 'son', 'God', 'born', 'everyone'.

# Structure of Galatians

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  - Thesis / Solution (2:15-21)
  - Arguments (3:1-5:12)
  - **Implications (5:13-6:10)**
    - Freedom -> Love -> Fulfillment 5:13-15
    - Walk by the Spirit (not flesh) 5:16-26
    - Bear one-another / Examine yourself 6:1-6:5
    - Do good by the Spirit 6:6-10
- Closing (6:11-18)



# Key Theological Themes

- **Justification by Faith**
- **Gospel**
- **Salvation History**
- **Incorporation into Christ**
- **Cross of Christ**
- **Spirit**
- **Flesh**
- **Law**
- **Faith**
- **Truth**
- **Oneness of Jews and Gentiles**
- **Freedom**
- **Apostasy**

# Theme: Justification by Faith

- Opening (1:1-5)

(John Piper)

- Body

- Problem (1:6-10)

- Apostolic Defense (1:11-2:14)

- Thesis / Solution (2:15-21)

- Arguments (3:1-5:12)

- Implications (5:13-6:10)

- Closing (6:11-18)

Formal Principle

Material Principle

Life Application

# Theme: Gospel

- Opening (1:1-5)
- **Body**
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Gospel Distortion  
Gospel Reception  
Gospel Definition  
Gospel Defense  
Gospel Implications

# What is the Gospel?

- According to Paul in his letter to the Galatians?

- Statement: Justification by Faith
- Reference: Galatians 3:6-8
- Gospel in the OT: Genesis 12:3, 15:6
- Focus: **Cross of Christ** => Curse of the Law

- According to Paul in his letter to the Ephesians?

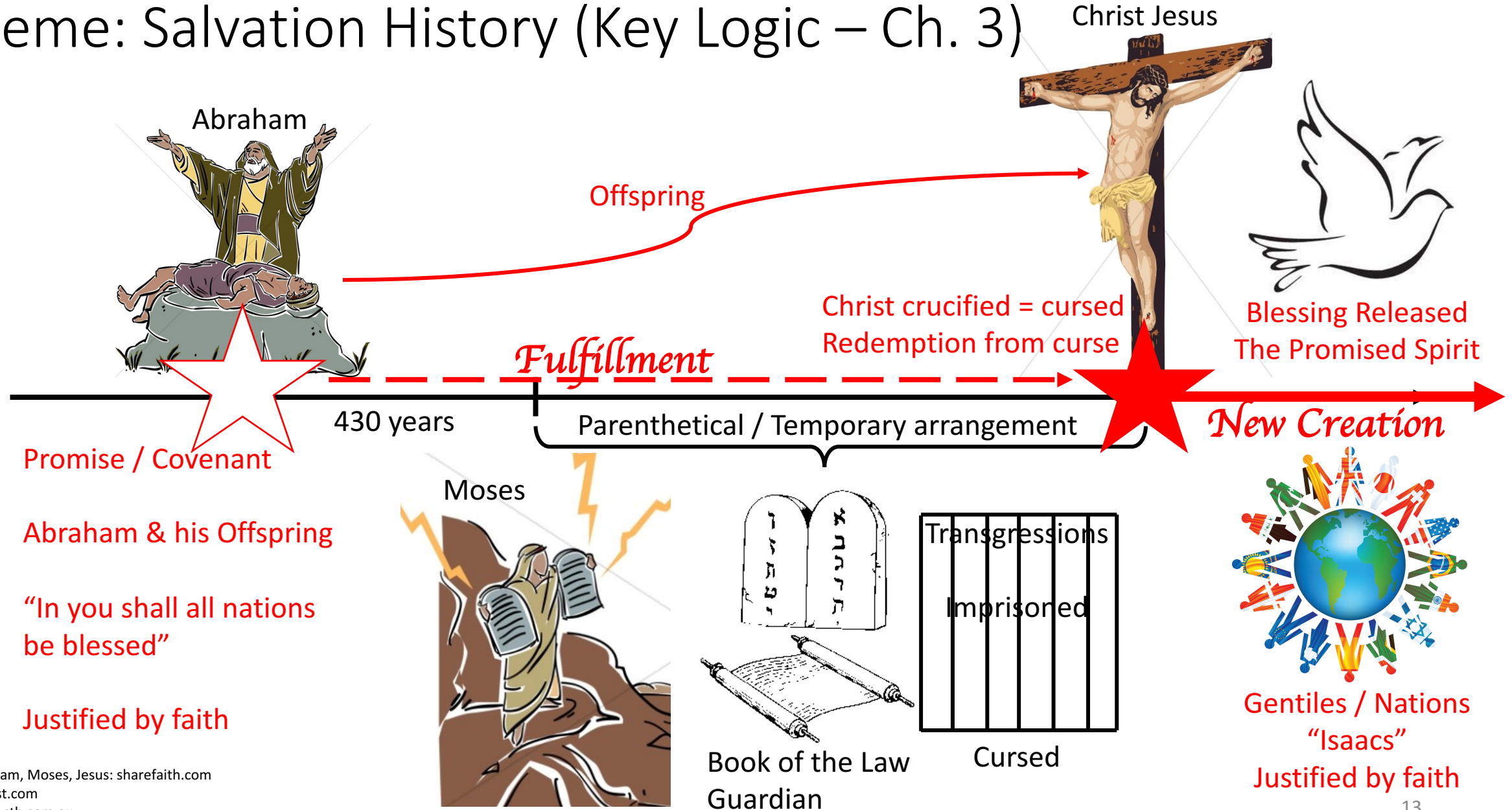
- Statement: Union with Christ
- Reference: Ephesians 5:31-32
- Gospel in the OT: Genesis 2:24
- Focus: **Exaltation of Christ** => Cosmic reconciliation

- Don't be surprised to see the gospel in OT because the gospel came before the law! Rather you should expect it!

*And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." (Galatians 3:8)*

*"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." <sup>32</sup> This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. (Ephesians 5:31-32)*

# Theme: Salvation History (Key Logic – Ch. 3)



# Covenant and the Law

- **Thesis:** Abrahamic Covenant 3:6-9 Eternal
- **Parenthesis:** Mosaic Law 3:19-27 Temporary
- **Essence:** Love 2:20, 5:14 Eternal

- **Illustration:**

- Traffic laws -> Mosaic Law
- Christ's Bank of Heaven -> Salvation
- Drive by the Spirit -> Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

# Theme: Incorporation Into Christ

- The Great Exchange / Substitution
  - Curse: Christ redeemed us from the **curse** of the by become a curse for us (3:13)
  - Blessing: in Christ Jesus the **blessing** of Abraham might come to the Gentiles (3:14)
- Adoption in Christ
  - For in Christ Jesus you are **sons of God** (3:26)
  - God has sent the **Spirit of his Son** into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” (4:6)
  - Now you, brothers, like **Isaac**, are **children** of promise (4:28)
- Baptism (not circumcision)
  - As many of you as were **baptized into Christ** have **put on Christ** (3:27)
  - (Col 2:11-12)

# Theme: Cross of Christ

- Historicity of the Cross
  - It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as **crucified** (3:2)
- Significance of the Cross
  - Christ redeemed us from the law by becoming a **curse** (3:13)
  - For it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is **hanged on a tree**” (3:13)
- Union with Christ on the Cross
  - I have been **crucified** with Christ (2:2)
  - By the cross the world is **crucified** to me (6:14)
  - By the cross I am **crucified** to the world (6:14)
  - All who belong to Christ have **crucified** the flesh (5:24)
  - I boast in the **cross** of our Lord Jesus Christ (6:14)
- Offense of the Cross (5:11)
  - that they may not be persecuted for the **cross** of Christ (6:12)
  - I bear on my body the **marks (stigmata)** of Jesus (6:17)



# Theme: Spirit

- Coming of the Spirit
  - Spirit is received by faith (3:2)
  - We begin and continue in Christ by the Spirit (3:2)
  - God supplies the Spirit (3:5)
  - God promised the Spirit – the blessing of Abraham (3:14)
- Nature of the Spirit
  - Spirit is of sonship, Spirit of God’s Son, crying “Abba! Father!” (4:6)
- Battle of the Spirit
  - Children of the Spirit are persecuted by the children of **flesh** (4:29)
  - Spirit and **flesh** are opposed to each other (5:16-17)
  - If you are led by the Spirit you are not under the **law** (5:18)
- Fruit of the Spirit
  - Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control (5:22-23)
- Telos of the Spirit
  - Spirit leads to eternal life (6:8)

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