

**Bible Study: Galatians 3:15-18**  
**Wednesday, July 8, 2020**

Last week, while considering **the first 14 verses of Galatians 3**, at the heart of Paul's writing was the idea that **if we live - even "in part" - as under Law** (or anything else in which we could put our trust), then we have both depreciated the value of the work of Jesus Christ at the cross; and, we have placed ourselves entirely under the condemnation of the law which was only good for pointing out that we are sinners in need of a Savior and His grace.

Now, *beginning with verse 15*, we continue, this time seeing that **Paul emphasizes the claim he has just made by providing an illustration**. Let's read **Galatians 3:15-18**:

<sup>15</sup> Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: *Though it is only a man's covenant*, yet **if it is confirmed**, no one annuls or adds to it. <sup>16</sup> Now to Abraham and his Seed were **the promises made**. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. <sup>17</sup> And this I say, *that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before* by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. <sup>18</sup> For if **the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise**; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

In **v. 15**, Paul uses a Greek word, "**diathēkē**" in its secular meaning. What does it refer to?

What is required for this document to be enacted?

After this document is enacted, who can declare it annulled or modify it?

Once that was done, the term of the will had to be carried out exactly as stated in the document.

Consider Hebrews 9:16-17 – <sup>16</sup> *For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.* <sup>17</sup> FOR a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

A last will & testament involves \_\_\_\_\_, which Paul now begins to speak of in our main text.

Let's look over at **Genesis 22:18** – <sup>18</sup> **In your SEED all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.**"

God's promise was made to Abraham and his seed.

To make certain there was no misunderstanding, Paul says, "**He didn't say**, 'And to his seeds, as of many; but, that it was speaking of only one, Christ Jesus.'"

The Greek word used by Paul here is **exclusive**; it can ONLY REFER to "Seed" as singular in this sentence.

Additionally, in **Genesis 22:18** - **This singular seed and blessing** was found in the person of \_\_\_\_\_.

He fulfilled two promises:

It was the fulfillment of the Promise \_\_\_\_\_.

It was the fulfillment of the Promise \_\_\_\_\_.

Consider also: **Genesis 3:14-15** NIV –

<sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals!

**You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.**

<sup>15</sup> And I will put **enmity** between you and the woman,

and between *your offspring and hers*;

**He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.**"

**Who was** the Seed of the Woman?

**Who was struck** on the heel by Satan?

**Who "crushed** the head of the enemy," and how?

What is critical to note in **v. 17** of Galatians 3?

In **v. 18** of Galatians 3, Paul restates an important fact.

***What is it? How does it relate to you?***

So, *once again*, God has demonstrated **His plan of blessing** as being **a plan of grace!**

What else could it be if it was a gift of God?