

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Galatians 3:1-7.**
- B. The apostle asks five questions of the Galatians. They are intended to show the uselessness of practicing the things of the Law if they want to be saved.
- C. By looking at these questions we can examine our faith and relationship to God.

I. QUESTION ONE (Gal. 3:1).

- A. The crucifixion should be ample proof that the Law is no more.
- B. Lessons for the Galatians:
 - 1. Jesus fulfilled the Law and the prophets in His life and in His death.
 - 2. It was because of sin brought about by the Law, that Jesus had to die. To go back to the Law is to do the very thing that crucified Jesus.
 - 3. Jesus' death was to free men from the Law, not bind them to it.
- C. Modern day lessons:
 - 1. The crucifixion should still be the great driving force in our lives.
 - 2. All of Xianity's power is in the cross.
 - 3. Xians are to remember the crucifixion every Sunday during the LS.

II. QUESTION TWO (Gal. 3:2).

- A. The presence of the HS in each Xian should be enough to keep one faithful.
- B. Lessons for the Galatians:
 - 1. Not everyone under the Law had the HS. God only gave Him to select people (Num. 11:29).
 - 2. Because of the indwelling of the HS people can enjoy greater spiritual blessings now, than what they could under the Law.
- C. Modern day lessons:
 - 1. In the Xian dispensation Jesus gives the spirit without measure (Jn. 3:34).
 - 2. The HS is our deposit of the eternal life to come (Eph. 4:30).
 - 3. We received the HS when we were baptized (Ac. 2:38).

III. QUESTION THREE (Gal. 3:3).

- A. The war between the flesh and the spirit cannot be won by trying to allow the two to work together.
- B. Lessons for the Galatians:
 - 1. The Law meant spiritual death, the Spirit means spiritual life (Rom. 8:1-4).
 - 2. The new life in Christ was also begun with the indwelling of the HS.
 - 3. Works of the Law cannot allow the Spirit to work effectively (Gal. 5:13).
- C. Modern day lessons:
 - 1. We do not work to be saved; we are saved, and therefore we work.
 - 2. Spiritual maturity can only be attained by allowing the HS to grow and direct your steps.

IV. QUESTION FOUR (Gal. 3:4).

- A. Paul asks, why did you put up with all the sufferings of being a Xian, if the Law is sufficient to save and mature?
- B. Lessons for the Galatians:
 - 1. There were serious problems for those who became Xians in the first century.
 - 2. If the gospel cannot save, why endure the sufferings caused by the gospel? It would be better if they went back to the Law completely.

3. They need to remember that if they suffer it needs to be for doing what is right, and for the right reasons.
- C. Modern day lessons:
1. We must remember that there is great value in suffering. It should teach us many valuable lessons about living for Jesus.
 2. Even Jesus learned obedience in the things that He suffered (Heb. 5:8,9).

V. **QUESTION FIVE (Gal. 3:5).**

- A. The miracles that were done to confirm their faith, came about not by the Law, but by the preaching of the gospel.
- B. Lessons for the Galatians:
1. They were very privileged people. They saw the apostles do great miracles to confirm that what was being preached was true.
 2. This fact is alone privy to the gospel message, not-the Law.
 3. Miracles confirmed a better covenant in the testament of X.
- C. Modern day lessons:
1. Blessed are we who have not seen but believed (Jn. 20:30,31).
 2. The gospel writers want to believe in the historical and miraculous Jesus.
 3. Only by faith in the good news of Jesus can we also believe in all of the miracles that surrounded His ministry, and that of His apostles.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Five powerful arguments as to why the Galatians should not go back to the Law:
1. The crucifixion of Jesus.
 2. The coming of the Holy Spirit.
 3. The life of Xian, led by the Holy Spirit.
 4. Suffering for the gospel that can produce maturity.
 5. The effecting of miracles-to confirm the gospel as true.
- B. The Law brings death, but the grace of the gospel brings life.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.