

**What Good Is the Law?**

**Galatians 3:19-22**

November 11, 2018 – Pastor Nick Neves

**What have we learned so far about justification by faith, not works?**

1. The law demands \_\_\_\_\_, which we cannot live up to.
2. The covenant God made with Abraham came \_\_\_\_\_ the law.
3. The covenant God made with Abraham put all the responsibility on \_\_\_\_\_ rather than Abraham.
4. Abraham received the covenant promises on \_\_\_\_\_, and God accounted righteousness to him.
5. To be saved, we must do the same – we put our faith in God’s plan, trusting that \_\_\_\_\_ is the only way.
6. In Christ, God \_\_\_\_\_ the promises He made to Abraham.
7. All who are in Christ by faith \_\_\_\_\_ from God’s promises to Abraham.

**QUESTION: Since grace is what saves, what use is the law?**

**According to verse 19, the law was added...**

- a. By whom?
- b. For what purpose?
- c. In what way?

The law came through multiple intermediaries: through \_\_\_\_\_, through \_\_\_\_\_, and through \_\_\_\_\_. (see Hebrews 2:1-3a)

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Verse 21 asks “Is the law \_\_\_\_\_ to the promises of God?” Considering that the law is a *curse* to us, should we see it as being *opposed* to the will of God? (see Psalm 119 in its entirety)

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**How should we understand verse 22, which tells us that the scripture *imprisoned* everything under sin?**

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The law is not contrary to the promises of God, it is contrary to \_\_\_\_\_ who don’t treat God with the honor He deserves.

\*The best commentary on the book of Galatians is the book of Romans!

**In the book of Romans, Paul describes how the law provided, and to some degree still provides us three very important functions:**

1. God’s law acts as a \_\_\_\_\_, providing a limited measure of justice and accountability.
2. God’s law acts as a \_\_\_\_\_, revealing our sin to us.
3. God’s law acts as a \_\_\_\_\_, teaching us what is pleasing to God.

The law serves to define the boundaries of our understanding of grace.

- Just how blessed we are to have grace!
- Just how badly we need it!
- Just how wonderful is the God who saves us!