

1 **GALATIANS 3:15-19****ABOLISHES THE****10 COMMANDMENTS****REALLY???**2 **THE PROBLEM**

✘ *Galatians 3:15-19 tells us a law was added that some thought should continue to be in force for Christians. The apostle Paul taught that it was an added law which was abolished when Christ came. However, modern theologians, who believe there are no moral obligations to be saved, teach that the added law was the Ten Commandments of the Mt. Sinai covenant. They use Paul's arguments to conclude that the Ten Commandments should be abolished. Our questions are: What law was added? Are the Ten Commandments abolished?*

3 **THE SCRIPTURE**

✘ 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. 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. 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. For if the inheritance [is] of the law, [it is] no longer of promise; but God gave [it] to Abraham by promise. What purpose then [does] the law [serve]? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; [and it was] appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator (Galatians 3:15-19).

4 **QUESTIONS NEEDING ANSWERS**

✘ Which Covenant?

✘ "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the *promises* made" (v. 16).

✘ You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham...your Seed...all *blessed* (Acts 3:25)

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

5 **COVENANT & GOSPEL—THE SAME**

✘ Galatians 3:8 and Acts 3:25 tell us the covenant with Abraham and the gospel are the same.

✘ Therefore...

✘ Paul is writing to the Galatians about perverting the gospel!
+(Galatians 1:6-7; 2:5, 14; 3:1, 4:16; 5:5-7)

6 **ANOTHER QUESTION**

✘ The Law that was added came from where?

✘ 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 (Galatians 3:17).

✘ When we count 430 years forward from the period God gave the promise to Abraham (circa 1930 BC), we come to the time God made a covenant with Israel at Mt. Sinai (circa 1500 BC).

7 **THEREFORE ANOTHER QUESTION**

- ✘ What Law Was Given at Mt. Sinai?
- ✘ "And the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the sound of the words, but saw no form; [you] only [heard] a voice. "So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone (Deuteronomy 4:12-13).
- ✘ Was there another law given during this same period?

8 **QUESTION AGAIN?**

- ✘ What Law Perverted the Gospel Covenant?
- ✘ "In your Seed all nations will be blessed"
- ✘ 1) Nations? Ethnos=families No problem here!
- ✘ 2) Blessed? Two blessings!
 - Inheritance: *blessing of Abraham...That you may inherit the land (Gen. 28:4)*
 - Stop Sinning: *bless you, in turning away every one [of you] from your iniquities (Acts 3:25-26)*
- +

9 **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE 1ST BLESSING**

- ✘ What must I do to inherit the kingdom?
- ✘ ...adultery...idolatry, sorcery...murder...those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God... (Galatians 5:19-21).
- ✘ 5 commandments in those 3 verses—7th, 2nd, 10th, 1st, and 6th
- ✘ Conclusion? Since the 10 Commandments must be obeyed to inherit the kingdom, they are not abolished and certainly did not pervert or distort the gospel/covenant!

10 **WHAT ABOUT THE "SEED" & INHERITANCE**

- ✘ "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made...not...seeds...as of many, but...one...Seed...Christ" (Galatians 3:16).
- ✘ Since Christ is the only inheritor and obedience to the commandments is necessary to inherit, what law did He keep?
- ✘ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all [points] tempted as [we are, yet] without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

11 **WHAT ABOUT THE "SEED"/INHERITANCE (CONT.)**

- ✘ ...God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts...I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you, (Galatians 4:6, 19).
- ✘ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar...whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. ...He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked (1 John 2:4-6).
- ✘ All the Seed must keep the commandments to inherit the KOG therefore the 10 C was not the law that distorted the gospel covenant.

12 **QUESTION ABOUT THE 2ND BLESSING**

- ✘ What must I do to depart from sin?
- ✘ Sin is the transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4 KJV).
- ✘ And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous (1 John 3:5-7).

13 **QUESTION ABOUT THE 2ND BLESSING**

- ✘ What must I do to depart from sin?
- ✘ He was manifested to take away our sins. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous (1 John 3:5-7).
- ✘ Conclusion: Since the 10 Commandments must be obeyed to depart from sin—the second blessing, the 10 are not abolished and certainly did not distort the gospel covenant!
- ✘ Must be another law!
- ✘
- ✘

14 **THE OTHER LAW**

- ✘ This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? (Galatians 3:2-3 NKJV)
- ✘ Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified (Galatians 2:16 KJV).

15 **HOW ARE WE JUSTIFIED**

- ✘ Note translations of:
- ✘ Greek 1342=righteous, just, right
- ✘ Greek 1343=righteousness
- ✘ Greek 1344=justify, be righteous, justifier
- ✘ Conclusion: When God talks about being righteous or being justified, He is speaking of exactly the same thing!
- ✘

16 **6 KEYS TO UNDERSTAND "ADDED LAW"**

1. The law that was being added referred to a law given at the time of the Mt. Sinai covenant *430 years after God gave the covenant to Abraham* (3:17).
 2. It was "added *because of transgressions*" (3:19).
 3. The law added could not cause them to be righteous (3:21).
 4. The added law confined (enclosed them as fish in a net) the Israelites under sin (3:22).
 5. The law added would be *in effect only until "the Seed should come to whom the promise was made"*(3:19).
 6. The law added was an instructor (Greek *paidagōgos*—3:24-25) concerning Christ.
- ✘

17 **WHERE ELSE IN THE BIBLE**

- ✘ Where else in the Bible do we find the subject of 1) *a law* that previously existed from Mt. Sinai, 2) temporarily added because of sin 3) that could not make one perfect that 4) confined the Israelites under sin that lasted 5) *only until the coming of Christ*, 6) that was a copy of the sacrifice of Christ to teach Israel?

18 **HEBREWS TELLS IT ALL**

- ✘ For the *law*, having a shadow [Hebrews 8:5—*a copy*] of the good things to come, [and] not the very image of the things, *can never with these same sacrifices*, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach *perfect*...But in those [sacrifices there is] a *reminder of sins every year*. For [it is] *not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins*. Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and

offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. ...

19 **HEBREWS TELLS IT ALL (CONT.)**

✘ Previously saying, "*Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and [offerings] for sin* You did not desire, nor had pleasure [in them]" (*which are offered according to the law*), By that will we have been sanctified through the *offering of the body of Jesus Christ* once [for all]. ... For *by one offering He has perfected forever* those who are being sanctified. ... Now where there is remission of these, [there is] *no longer an offering for sin*. (Hebrews 10:1-5, 8, 10, 14, 18).

20 **DEFINITELY COVERS THE 6 POINTS**

✘ 1) A law that previously existed from Mt. Sinai (Galatians 3:17)—"sacrifice and offerings, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin," "offered according to the law" [11 of the 13 references of "law" in Hebrews directly reference the priesthood established after the Mt. Sinai Covenant was established]

✘ 2) Temporarily added because of sin (Galatians 3:19) — "in those [sacrifices there is] a *reminder of sins every year*...no longer an offering for sin"

21 **DEFINITELY COVERS THE 6 POINTS**

✘ 3) Could not make one perfect (Galatians 3:21)—"can never with these same sacrifices...make those who approach perfect"

✘ 4) Confined the Israelites under sin (Galatians 3:22) — "*not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins*"

✘

22 **DEFINITELY COVERS THE 6 POINTS**

✘ 5) Only until the coming of Christ (Galatians 3:19)— "*offering of the body of Jesus Christ ...by one offering He has perfected forever ...no longer an offering for sin.*"

✘ 6) A copy of the sacrifice of Christ to instruct Israel (Galatians 3:24-25)—"the law having a shadow of things to come...offering of the body of Jesus Christ" [see also Hebrews 8:5; 9:23—copy and shadow are interchangeable]

23 **WE UNDOUBTEDLY CONCLUDE:**

✘ The "*works of law*" in Galatians and "*offerings for sin...according to the law*" (Hebrews 10) are *the same*...therefore:

✘ Offerings for sin were only until Christ came.

✘ Deeds/Works of Law were discontinued when Christ confirmed the covenant with Abraham

✘ The Ten Commandments were not only not abolished in Galatians, they were established in our hearts and minds—needing to be kept to depart from sin and inherit God's kingdom.

✘

✘