

Galatians: Christ Has Set Us Free
Lesson 5 “The Dreaming Tree”

I. Introduction - We are continuing through our study through the book of *Galatians* tonight.

A. Introduction

1. Paul wrote this book to give an revelation of grace and what the true gospel is. He wrote in a very emphatic and dogmatic and sort of in your face style. Why?
2. He was writing to churches in Galatia that he founded on his first missionary journey (*Acts 13-14*). These churches were founded in approximately 48 A.D.
3. Paul wrote Galatians about 3 years after he founded these churches to counter the teaching of the Judaizers. The Judaizers had come in and begin to say that these Christians had to continue to believe in Jesus but also live by the Mosaic law to be right with God. **Watered down the gospel.** Paul called their teaching of mixture a different gospel and said that those that taught it were accursed..
5. We have also looked at where Paul got his message from (the gospel of grace - came from divine revelation) and how upon learning this truth he had to mature in the things of God so people saw the gospel accompanied with signs and wonders working in his life which gave him influence (council of Jerusalem.)
6. Last week we talked about how Paul confronted Peter because of his hypocrisy in refusing to eat with Gentile believers when Jewish brethren came to Galatia. Paul rebuked him and explained how we are justified by faith and not works.

B. Tonight we are going to study the first half of *Galatians 3* and how we are redeemed from the curse of the law. The title of my message is “The Dreaming Tree.”

1. The cross is the location where Jesus became cursed in our place so we could now walk under the blessing of God in perpetuity. When we get a revelation of the finished work of the cross it will cause us to dream again.
2. *Psalm 126* *When the captivity returned to Zion we were like those who dream.*
3. The problem with a lot of Christian teaching is it is reductionary. The focus is on not sinning so the emphasis is not to die instead of learning to live.

II. The Dreaming Tree - Tonight I want to help you rediscover purpose and learn to dream again.

A. **Galatians 3:1-14 Redeemed From The Curse**

1. *Verse 1* Paul says these Galatians have been bewitched, brought under a witchcraft curse by attempting to earn right standing by keeping the law.
2. *Verses 2-5* Paul asks a key question? Do you get the Holy Spirit by your good works? Obviously not. Then why would we try to keep the Holy Spirit/blessing of God by good works? **God does miracles because of the Holy Spirit not our**

works. ex: Ashley and I fighting on the way to church and then pray and see people healed at church.

3. **Verses 6-9** Paul makes a comparison to Abraham.

a. Abraham believed God and was credited as righteous - **Genesis 15:6**. He wasn't circumcised until **Genesis 17**. Right believing and not right actions brought right standing.

b. God the Father preached the gospel to Abraham and said in you all nations shall be blessed. What's the gospel? The blessing mandate!

Quotation of **Genesis 12:3** and **Genesis 22:18**. **Notice the gospel isn't going just about getting saved from hell, it's about blessing. Saved from hell is reductionary. The blessing message brings life.**

4. **Verses 10-12** The curse of the law is no one can keep it. **Deuteronomy 27:26** - we are cursed if we don't keep the whole law!

a. **Verse 11** quotes **Habakkuk 2:4** and **Verse 12** quotes **Leviticus 18:5**.

5. **Verse 13** We are redeemed from the curse **Deuteronomy 21:22-23**.

6. **Verse 14** We receive the blessing of Abraham by faith, not keeping the works of the law. **Deuteronomy 28** describes all of the curse of the law. It includes poverty, sickness, your wife will cheat on you, your kids will go into captivity, you will be carried off captive, etc. **Jesus paid for all of this for us and was cursed in our place. This doesn't apply to us anymore as long as we believe.**

7. When we understand what happened at the cross it should give us the capacity to dream! These passages take the limits off of God!

B. Song of Solomon - A Picture of The Ascended Life

1. This book is a metaphor of Jesus's relationship with his bride.

2. He loves her, but the bride feels unworthy. **Song of Solomon 1:6-7** and **Song of Solomon 1:15**.

3. She's made whole by sitting under the shade of the cross - **Song of Solomon 2:3**. We need to stay under the shade of the cross until we are made whole. Many people do a work for God too quickly and aren't healthy yet.

4. **Song of Solomon 2:8-13** The Invitation to the Ascended Life.

III. Conclusion - When we receive from the finished work of the cross, it makes our heart whole and gives us the capacity to dream again. We need to stay under the shade of the cross until we see ourselves like God sees us. From there, He will call us to a higher level to do great feats with Him.

A. Call Up Prayer Team

B. Pray Closing Prayer