

## Redeemed From The Curse

Galatians 3:13-15

“Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree,”<sup>14</sup> that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.<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.”

**When God gave the Law on the tables of stone on Mount Sinai, He knew that no human being could keep that Holy Law.** In fact, He knew that no one ever would. And the truth of the matter is that **God never expected a single sinner to keep His Law.** **That was not the purpose of the Law.** In reality, God gave the Law to prove that no one could be saved by the Law of Works, in order that it might convince all mankind of the need of the grace of God to get them ready to accept the mercy of God in Christ Jesus. The Law is perfect; that is why **imperfect men cannot keep it.** **The Law is holy; that is why sinners are condemned by it.** The Law is just, and therefore cannot show mercy to the guilty, for that would be in violation of its justness. The Law can only show the nature of sin. In fact, Galatians 3:10 tells us the Law condemns and says, “Cursed *is* everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.” Look, therefore, at verse 13, “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.”

**The question that I want you to think about tonight is this – what is the curse of the Law?** The curse of the Law is the penalty of the Law. We need to know what the Word of God is telling us, about the curse Jesus redeemed us from.

**The law can refer to the ten commandments, or sometimes refers to the entire Old Testament, or in many cases the first five books of the Bible, this is called the Pentateuch.** If you go back to the Pentateuch, you will find the curse of the law very clearly defined in

**Deuteronomy 28:15-68.** I would encourage you, when you get home, to take your Bible and read it for yourself. You will see that the curse of the law has multiple parts.

Verses 15-20,30-33, 38-40, and 51 tell us that poverty is the curse of the Law. Verses 20-22, 27-29, 35, 59-61 all tell us that sickness is the curse of the Law. There are other curses throughout the Old Testament, always as a result of disobedience to God. Spiritual death is the first curse to come upon man, as mentioned in Genesis 2, where God told Adam not to eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, “for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” Adam did not die physically that day, but he did die spiritually that day. Spiritual death is not ceasing to exist, but to be separated from the life of God. Adams spirit was separated from the life of God, as a result of his sin. His body was made to last forever, but because he no longer had the life of God indwelling his spirit, his body eventually died, even at that, it took over 900 years for him to die physically. I would like to take a look at the 103rd psalm, even though this is Old Testament, it shows God’s desire for mankind. He loves us and wants us to come to Him as our redeemer.

Psalms 103:1-6 says, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. The Lord executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.”

Verse 2 says to “forget not all His benefits,” another way of saying this is, “do not forget *any* of His benefits.” I am afraid that we as believers have forgotten some of His benefits, yet His Word tells us very clearly here, “Do not forget!” The Psalmist is careful to list these benefits, “Who forgives all your iniquities...Who heals all your diseases...Who redeems your life from destruction...Who crowns you

with loving kindness and tender mercies...Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

**This psalm is not talking about the law or its consequences, yet I wanted to look at it because it is talking about God's love toward us and His desire to see us free from all bondage's, to see our total redemption.** Galatians 3:14 reminds us that God brought these blessing upon Abraham through his faith, that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. **This happened 430 years before the Mosaic law was given. God established a Covenant with Abraham in order to get His seed into the earth and redeem mankind once and for all.** A **Covenant** is a **binding agreement between two agreeing parties.** A **blood covenant** throughout history was **considered the strongest kind of covenant that could be made.** **Abraham shed his blood in the act of circumcision, and God bound Himself with His Word. Jesus fulfilled the Abrahamic covenant with His blood.** The 13th verse says, for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree." Jesus became the blood act committed by God's high priest to totally fulfill the Abrahamic covenant and establish His blessings upon the earth. Jesus was that seed, as seen in verse, "Now to Abraham and his *seed* were the promises made." He does **not** say, "**And to his seeds,**" as of many, but as of one, "**And to his seed,**" who is Christ, as seen in verses 17-19, "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.”

**In other words, God had to establish the law and the priesthood because of sin, and sin is what separated us from God in the first place.** So God established the law and the priesthood, so that man would be able to receive the blessing of God. **As verse 19 says,** “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.” **Continuing with verses 20-24 he says,** “Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

**God would not have had to initiate the law except for man’s transgression, in order to show man that he was a sinner.** If it wasn’t for the law, man would not have been accountable to God for there was no commandment to be broken. **As verse 24 says,** “...the law was a tutor to show us the way to Christ, that by faith we might be justified.” **This first covenant was not the end result, but a way for God to establish an everlasting Covenant through Jesus Christ, an eternal covenant that could not be broken.** In order for us to be partakers of this covenant we have to receive the promise by faith, as verse 24 says, “...that we might be justified by faith.”

**Therefore, our justification before God comes through Jesus Christ through faith.** This blood Covenant was made through Abraham’s seed, the Lord Jesus Christ, and cannot be broken by man, but we can be partakers of the inheritance by faith. Glory to God, this is the good news of the Gospel. **Lets move on to verses 25-29,**

“But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

**In other words, the fulfillment of God’s covenant has come; therefore, our redemption has come.** We have been *redeemed* from the *curse* of the law, Christ Jesus has become that *curse for us*, for one purpose, to fulfill God’s Covenant with Abraham and redeem mankind, so that the blessings of Abraham might come upon the gentiles by faith. The truth of the matter is, by-in-large, the body of Christ as a whole has forgotten His benefits, even after His admonishment not to forget. **I know this must truly grieve the heart of the Father.** Let us be partakers of these blessings that God has gone to such great lengths to bless us with.

**Let me close with this word - it's one thing to discover you are free.** It's another to break out and finally live free.