

## But What About the Law?

May 24, 2020  
Galatians 3:15-25

Pastor Mark Turner  
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

- **Question** -“*what is a believer’s relationship to the law of God if I am only saved by Christ’s performance and not my own?*”
- Paul uses an example to show us that God’s grace hasn’t changed
  - Gal 3:15-17 God’s covenant promise to Abram
  - Moses’ law – introduced 430 years later doesn’t change promises
  - If it did, then the original promise was any good!
- If law was given as means of salvation
  - God’s promise changed
  - That would mean God added 2<sup>nd</sup> means of salvation - keeping law
  - We didn’t need Savior v16 ‘to your offspring’
  - Salvation by promise and law are mutually exclusive
- The Covenant of Genesis 15 was sealed
  - Gen 15:2 - Abram was unsure
  - God recounted promise Gen 15:5
  - Abram believed God’s promise Gen 15:6
  - Abram then asked “HOW?” Gen 15:8
  - Cutting ceremony Gen 15:9-16 - sealed covenants in ANE
    - Animals cut in half - parties passed between saying if one of us break the covenant may this happen to me
    - Abram slept 12 God passed through 17-18
    - Seal meant: if one of the parties broke the terms then curse of covenant would come upon the One who passed.
    - Cross of Christ (Ga 3:16) was fulfillment of that curse Rm 3:21-28
    - Christ (Abram’s offspring) fulfilled terms of covenant on our behalf (Abram’s descendants Rm 4:12)
- Remember these Amazing Truths of the Gospel of Grace:
  - Believers begin their Christian life by looking outside of themselves to Christ alone for their salvation Gal 3:1
  - We often forget that salvation is by faith alone in Christ alone and begin to look to ourselves to maintain our salvation Gal 3:3
  - Remember we are children of faith because of Christ – continue to have faith in Christ and walk in God’s grace Gal 3:26

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