

# Galatians 3:1-14

## Jesus. And That's All.

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. 2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? 4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? 5 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” ?

7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” 12 But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree” — 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

**vs. 1-5** – Once again, Paul turns back to the Christians in Galatia. As you read vs. 1, do you think Paul is happy? What are some modern ways of saying “who has bewitched you?”

- How does the Holy Spirit work? Recall Luther's explanation to the Third Article of the Creed. And the Bible verses below.

*I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.*

- **John 6:63** - The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.
- **Romans 10:17** - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.
- In vs. 4, Paul talks about suffering. What kind of suffering is he talking about? Do you know people who are suffering in this way? Have you ever suffered this way?
- Why is Paul concerned about being doctrinally correct?

**Vs. 6-9** – What is the role of faith in salvation?

- How did many of the Jews believe they were saved?
- **Matthew 3:9** - And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

**vs. 10** – How is the word, “all” a key word in this sentence? What is our Holy God's expectation of us?

- **1 Peter 1:16** - “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

**vs. 11** – Thus, based on our thoughts, words and deeds, is anyone justified before God by the law? According to this verse, how are we justified?

**vs. 12-13** – Who bore the curse of the law for us?

**vs. 14** – Who is a child of Abraham? How does this happen? What is the role of faith in salvation?