

September 23, 2018 – Galatians 3b

# TRUE HEIRS



**Faith**  
**sets**  
**Free**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
by Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)

previous lessons here  
[PreciousHeart.net/SS](http://PreciousHeart.net/SS)

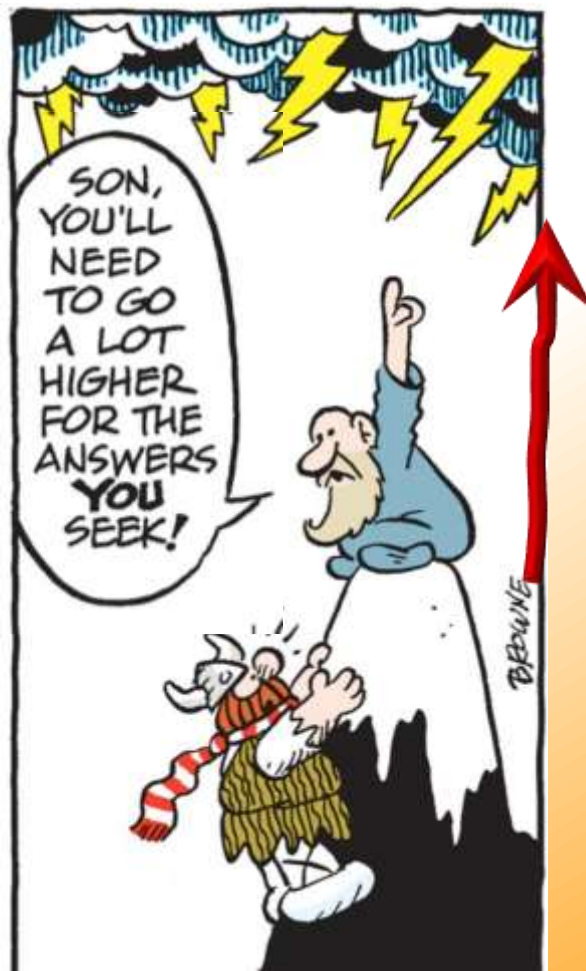


Great Philosopher **Hagär** the Horrible  
Climbs Mountain to ask Wise Man a Question

See the Wise Man pointing  
Wise Man answers ...


So it is with our passage  
Paul makes clear ... yet  
The eternal dimensions  
reach from Abraham  
**To Christ**

**Promise > Law > Faith**





## **Galatians**

<b>Sept 2</b>	<b>True Gospel</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>No Other under Heaven</b>
<b>Sept 9</b>	<b>True Grace</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>How Many Puny Pillars Did Pugnacious Paul Pillory?</b>
<b>Sept 16</b>	<b>True Life</b>	<b>3a</b>	<b>Righteous Live by Faith</b>
 <b>Sept 23</b>	<b>True Heirs</b>	<b>3b</b>	<b>Faith Sets Free, Priority of the Promise</b>
<b>Sept 30</b>	<b>True Freedom</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Remember the Hug, Priority of the Hug</b>
<b>Oct 7</b>	<b>True Fruit</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Flesh vs. Spirit, Love One Another Fast Flee the Fiery Flesh Fancy Not the Fickle Flesh</b>
<b>Oct 14</b>	<b>True Compassion</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Saints with Scars, Treasures of Doing Good</b>





## Theme

**Believers are granted redemption  
& are adopted into God's Family**



### Galatians

**3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came**

**3:26-29 New Community of Heirs – ALL One in Christ**

**4:1-7 New Position – God's Child & Heir Thru Christ**

**Promise > Law > Faith & Heir**



**Key Verse – Galatians 3:28-29**

- 28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither slave nor free,  
nor is there male and female,  
for you are ALL ONE in Christ Jesus.**
- 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are  
Abraham's seed, and heirs  
according to the promise.**

JEWEL  
of the  
CHURCH





**Alternative Title**

# **Priority of the Promise**





**Chap. 1 – Crystal Clear Curse –**

**Anyone espousing a different gospel**

**Let them be under God's CURSE**

**Chap. 2 – We saw Paul Pillory the Puny Pillars**

**Punish the Kingdom Cutters' Propaganda**

**Offer a Profoundly Precious Postulate:**

**Not justified by the LAW, but ONLY by FAITH in Christ**

- Chap. 3a**
- Fearsome Force of the Curse**
  - Finality of our Fortunate Forgiving**
  - Some Fools had Foiled their Faith**

**EXPERIENCE was they Rec'd Spirit by BELIEVING**

**HISTORY was in Abraham THE Man of FAITH**



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3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

From the **Promise** to the **Law** to **Faith & Heir**

Batten down the hatches ... *Dive, Dive, Dive*

Paul takes us DEEP ... into the Depths

Galatians 3:15-29 ... *as deep as he gets*

3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came  
**Hardest of all ... not exquisitely clear**

3:26-29 New Community of Heirs – ALL One in Christ  
**One of the Most Precious N.T. Jewels**

4:1-7 New Position – God's Child / Heir in Christ  
**Beautiful Recap of Submarine Dive**



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# 3:15-17 – Promise to Abraham is Fulfilled in Christ

Law 430 years after Promise to Abraham

Law does NOT set aside Promise to Abraham

<sup>18</sup> if the INHERITANCE depends on the LAW,  
then it no longer depends on the PROMISE;  
but God in his GRACE gave it to  
Abraham through a PROMISE.



Inheritance: **Salvation by FAITH**

Inheritance: **Made Children of God by FAITH**



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3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

What words are these? Abstract ... hard  
without an image to *anchor* them in the water

Listen closely—Paul **Prioritizes the PROMISE**

<sup>18</sup> if the INHERITANCE depends on the LAW,  
then it no longer depends on the PROMISE;  
but God in his GRACE gave it to  
Abraham through a PROMISE.

He SHALL be the Father of Many Nations  
**Through ONE Seed ... that is Christ**



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### 3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

Paul sniffs out their next question:

<sup>19</sup> Why, then, was the LAW given at all?

It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the PROMISE referred had come.

The LAW was given through angels and entrusted to a Mediator.

Most agree ... **Mediator is CHRIST**

NEXT verse is perhaps the most confusing,

in the New Testament ... ***I kid you NOT!***



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### 3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

Now look at this:

<sup>19</sup> ... The LAW was given through angels  
and entrusted to a mediator. [Christ]

<sup>20</sup> A mediator, however, implies  
more than one party; but God is ONE.

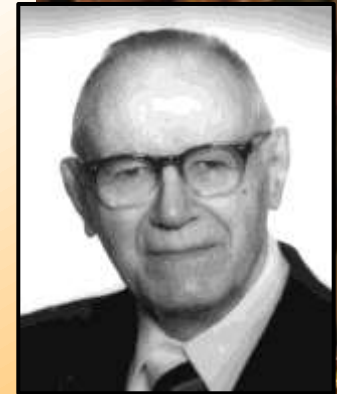
v.20 = at least 430 interpretations\*

N.T. Professor William Hendrickson prefers this:

Moses: O.T. Mediator between Israel & God  
GOD to Abraham needed NO Mediator

**God acted on His OWN sovereignty**

\* William Hendrickson, *Testament Commentary—Galatians* (Baker, 1968; 260p.), 143.  
Professor of N.T. Calvin Theological Seminary, 1942-52.



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### 3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

**<sup>20</sup> A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is ONE.**

**Charles Spurgeon\* said one old commentator noticed 250 interpretations ...**

**Spurgeon in 1890 said a modern saw 400+**

**Spurgeon quotes John Prime from 1587, English clergyman under Elizabeth I, said:**

**“an endless labyrinth.”**

**Spurgeon, “This was getting from a wood into a forest — a black forest, where one might lose himself hopelessly.”**

**\* “A Mediator,” Feb. 23, 1890 (#2180), all caps mine.**



**Charles H. Spurgeon  
by Alexander Melville (1834-1892)**

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3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

<sup>20</sup> A mediator, however, implies  
more than one party; but God is ONE.

Charles Spurgeon\* notices “GOD IS ONE”

God does not need “mediation” ...

God is SOVEREIGN ... Judge of All the Earth

WE – sinners – are the ones needing to be

**Reconciled – Mediated**

GOD is ONE – Spurgeon sees a piece of Gold

Paul is running ... kicks over Gold vein ...

**We NEED a mediator ... God does NOT**

\* “A Mediator,” Feb. 23, 1890 (#2180), all caps mine.



Charles H. Spurgeon  
by Alexander Melville (1834-1892)

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3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

**Paul RUNS** to a question they **SHOULD** ask:

<sup>21</sup> Is the LAW, therefore, opposed to the  
**PROMISES** of God? **Absolutely not!**

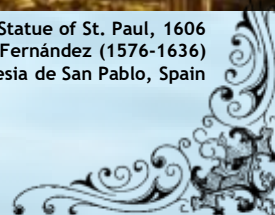
Then Paul takes the helm of the Submarine  
Takes us down as theologically **DEEP** as ever

For if a LAW had been given that could  
impart LIFE, then righteousness would  
certainly have come by the LAW.

**From the LAW to LIFE—*never!***



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**3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came**

**Paul now makes his DEEP connection ...**

**<sup>22</sup> But Scripture has locked up everything  
under the control of sin, so that**

**what was PROMISED,**

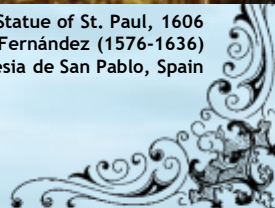
**being given through FAITH in Jesus Christ,  
might be given to those who BELIEVE.**

**DEEP ... Ocean Deep**

**Promise to Abraham is our “FAITH’s History”**



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**3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came**

**Paul now makes his connection ...**

**<sup>22</sup> But Scripture has locked up everything  
under the control of sin ...**

**What DOES the Law do? == Law *Incarcerates***

**Paul outlines this best in Romans 3**

**Rom. 2:23 *ALL* have sinned and fall short of the  
Glory of God**

**Abraham relied upon the Promise**

**Moses became the mediator of the Law**

***Yet Moses too relied upon the Promise!***



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### 3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

Paul now makes his connection ...

<sup>23</sup> Before the coming of this FAITH,  
we were held in *custody* under the LAW,  
*locked* up until the FAITH that was  
to come would be revealed.

<sup>24</sup> So the LAW was our GUARDIAN until Christ  
came that we might be justified by FAITH.

NIV = Guardian NASB = Tutor KJV = Schoolmaster

Greek *paidagōgos* = English *pedagogue* teacher

**Peda** = Child ... **Ago** = to Lead

Appears 3x in N.T.



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### 3:15-25 LAW Old Guardian – How FAITH Came

<sup>24</sup> So the LAW was our GUARDIAN until Christ came that we might be justified by FAITH.

NIV = Guardian NASB = Tutor KJV = Schoolmaster

The meaning in 1 Cor. 4:15 is much clearer

<sup>4:15</sup> For though ye have 10,000 **INSTRUCTORS** in Christ, yet have ye not many FATHERS

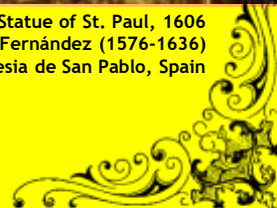
Guardian ... Instructor ... Leader of Children

<sup>25</sup> Now that this FAITH has come, we are no longer under a teacher-guardian.

**LAW – Points to TIME when Christ Frees**



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Spiritual dimensions are **HARDEST** to grasp  
*without an image* to anchor them in the water

Why Jesus used parables most of all ...

Paul too ... between the Promise and Christ

Law was a Child's Teacher **GUARDING** us

*Slaps our Hand ... NO BLESSING in LAW*  
*For Offenders*

Paul tells us more about **FAITH** in Ephesians

Eph. 1:3 **Father ... has blessed us in the**  
**spiritual realm with every spiritual blessing**

**in Christ**



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**Oh, talk about exquisite and sublime ...  
Paul seems to have touched angel wings**

**Eph. 1:7-8 we have redemption through his  
blood.... with all wisdom and understanding,  
He made known to us the mystery of his will  
According to his good pleasure which he  
Purposed in Christ**

**Eph. 6:11-12 Put on the full armor of God ... our  
Struggle is not against flesh & blood ...  
But against ... the spiritual forces  
of evil in the heavenly realms**

**in Christ**



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**Paul again says 6:13 “Put on the full armor”  
then outlines precisely in precious metaphor:**

**Eph. 6:14-17 STAND Firm with the Belt of Truth ...  
Breastplate of Righteousness  
Feet shod with Readiness of Gospel**

**16 In addition to all this,  
Take up the Shield of FAITH to extinguish  
the Flaming Arrows of the evil one.**

**17 Take the Helmet of Salvation and the  
Sword of the Spirit which is the**

**Word of God**



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**3:26-29 New Community of Heirs – ALL One in Christ**

**Precious Promise is fulfilled in Christ**

**<sup>26</sup> So in Christ Jesus you are**

**all children of God through FAITH**

**<sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into  
Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.**

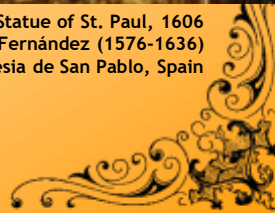
**Law reveals our Prison ... our Bondage**

**Promise looks to Christ**

**ALL the Old Testament looks to Christ**



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### **3:26-29 New Community of Heirs – ALL One in Christ**

**Now the Jewel of Paul's letter to the Galatians  
One of the most beloved in Christendom**

**28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither slave nor free,  
nor is there male and female,  
for you are ALL ONE in Christ Jesus.**

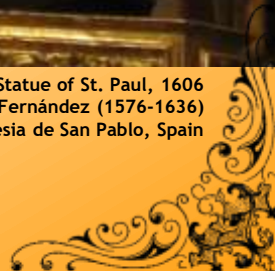
**29 If you belong to Christ, then you are  
Abraham's seed, and HEIRS  
according to the PROMISE.**

**Utterly Sublime**

**Shinning Jewel in Christian Literature**



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## 4:1-7 New Position – God's Child & Heir Thru Christ

We shall return to the jewel in a moment

Paul moves from Contract to Slave in an

**“In Other Words”**

- <sup>1</sup> What I am saying is that as long as an HEIR is underage ... no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate.**
- <sup>2</sup> The HEIR is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father.**
- <sup>3</sup> So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world.**



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**4:1-7 New Position – God's Child & Heir Thru Christ**

**4-5 But when the SET TIME HAD FULLY COME,  
God sent his Son, born of a woman,  
born under the LAW,  
to redeem those under the LAW, that  
we might receive adoption to sonship.**

**6 Because you are his sons, God sent the  
Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."**

**7 So you are no longer a slave,  
but God's child; & since you are his child,  
God has made you also an HEIR.**

**Adopted & Born Again when Spirit Comes**



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Reminds me of an old classic song  
"Faith of our Fathers" written in 1849 by  
Frederick William Faber (1814-63)

### Remembering Catholic Martyrs

**FAITH** of our Fathers! **LIVING STILL**  
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword:  
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
Whene'er we hear that glorious **WORD**.

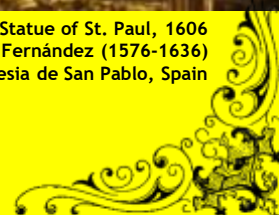


**FAITH** of our Fathers! **Holy FAITH!**  
We will be true to thee till death....

And thru the **TRUTH** that comes from God,  
**Mankind shall then be truly FREE.**



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**3:26-29 New Community of Heirs – ALL One in Christ**

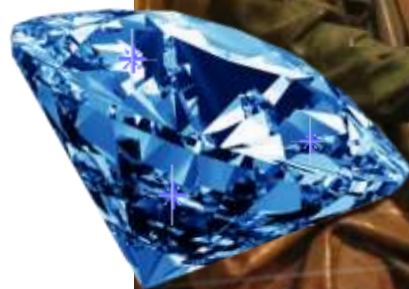
**A beloved JEWEL in Christendom**

**28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither slave nor free,  
nor is there male and female,  
for you are ALL ONE in Christ Jesus.**

**29 If you belong to Christ, then you are  
Abraham's seed, and HEIRS  
according to the PROMISE.**

**Utterly Sublime – All by FAITH**

**Shinning Jewel of the Christian Church**



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