



frosh

2017

Part 4: *Bewitched!*

APPETIZER: Return of the Religionists

P.B.A. = Performance Based Acceptance

THREE OPTIONS FOR UNITY IN THE EARLY CHURCH:

1. Two Tracks: Jews live according to the Law of Moses and Gentiles do not.
2. One Track: Gentiles learn how to live according to the Law of Moses.
3. One Track: Jews give up living according to the law of Moses.

The Three Old Covenant Markers of Exclusivity and Separation:

1. Circumcision
2. Sabbath
3. Diet

DINE IN: The Cure for the Curse

Galatians 3:1-18

Ezekiel 36:25-27

Acts 5:30; also see 1 Peter 2:24

“SEED” =

Isaac → All Israel (innumerable stars)

Jesus → All Believers (in Christ)

TAKE OUT: A Better “P.B.A.”

P.B.A. = ~~Performance~~ Promise Based Acceptance

What does God promise?

- A new start, cleansed from all sin, failure, and shame.
- A new heart, and a new spirit, tender and responsive to God.
- A new intimacy with the Almighty, with God’s own Spirit to guide you.
- A new disposition, growing in the fruit of the Spirit.
- A new acceptance as God’s child in a global family.
- A new identity as a citizen in God’s kingdom.
- A new calling and purpose as ambassadors of reconciliation.
- A new destiny, to be forever welcome into the love-life of the Trinity.
- A new way to live and love and forgive.
- A new peace, with God and others no matter how different.
- A new degree of trouble, suffering, and pain, as you love those who may not love you in return.

NEXT WEEK: New Series – BAD IDEAS!

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Review this week's sermon. Talk about what most encouraged or perplexed you, what new things you learned or old things that were confirmed.

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

2. Read **Galatians 3:1-18**.
 - a. What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why?
 - b. Paul saw the Galatian Christians as "bewitched" because, after becoming completely free from the Law they were starting to return to legalistic religious practices (like diet, circumcision, or special holy days) as a mandatory part of their faith. Have you ever been bewitched by legalism? Are there forms of this bewitching in the church today we should be wary of?
 - c. How can seeing Jesus clearly portrayed as crucified (that is, keeping our imaginations filled with the central truth of Jesus) act as a kind of antidote to the bewitching power of legalism? How do you do this?
 - d. Paul says Scripture "foresaw" and "announced"/"preached" the gospel. How much do you make use of the Bible as a primary way to hear God communicating today? What might you change in your daily or weekly rhythms to hear God more clearly through Scripture?
 - e. Read Jesus' words in **John 16:33**. Jesus promises his disciples that they will have trouble, but also peace and encouragement throughout the trouble. How have you seen this promise fulfilled in your life?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

3. Use your Huddle Handout Questions and pray for one another.

October 1/October 8, 2017 // @bruxy

Quotes

Welcome to the conclusion of our Frosh series! We're talking about the New Covenant as the covenant of faith instead of law – more like the way God related to Abraham than to Moses.

In Galatians chapter 3 the apostle Paul shares how shocked he is that the churches in Galatia have started to mix the gospel of Jesus with the Law of Moses. Here are some of his thoughts...

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.

I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?

So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham.

Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole." He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ.

For 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.

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 Apostle Paul (Galatians 3)