

FAITH & GRACE

Galatians 3:1 - 9

¹You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? ² I only want to learn this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law or by believing what you heard? ³ Are you so foolish? After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh? ⁴ Did you experience so much for nothing — if in fact it was for nothing? ⁵ So then, does God give you the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law? Or is it by believing what you heard — ⁶ just like Abraham who believed God, and it was credited to him for righteousness? ⁷ You know, then, that those who have faith, these are Abraham's sons. ⁸ Now the Scripture saw in advance that God would justify the Gentiles by faith and proclaimed the gospel ahead of time to Abraham, saying, All the nations will be blessed through you. ⁹ Consequently, those who have faith are blessed with Abraham, who had faith. Galatians 3:1-9 (CSB)

FOCUS: There is nothing that we can do to earn God's grace. He gives it freely to those leave and follow Him, just like Abraham did.

OUTLINE:

1. The Questions (v.1-5)

1. Who has cast a spell on you?
2. Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law or by believing what you heard?
3. Are you foolish?
4. After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh?
5. Did you experience so much for nothing — if in fact it was for nothing?
6. Was your experience for nothing?

2. Abraham's Example

1. Genesis 12:1-3
 1. Notice what God says:
 1. Leave
 2. Follow
 3. I will bless you.
 2. God Blesses by Grace
 1. God had promised to bless Abram, and Abram DIDN'T deserve it.
 2. Notice that Abraham did not make a covenant with God, but God made one with Abraham.
 3. Blessings Received Through Faith
 1. Grace cannot be earned. It is given by God to those who do not deserve it.

3. So What

1. God gives His children grace that they do not deserve.
2. We must watch out so that we do not slip into legalism.
3. God has promised to bless our obedience.