

Galatians (Part 12)
(The Role of the Law – Galatians 3:19-24)

Introduction (1:1-10)

I. The Divine Origin of Paul's Gospel Designated (1:11, 12)

II. The Divine Origin of Paul's Gospel Defended (1:13-2:21)

III. The Truth of Paul's Gospel Demonstrated: Justification by Faith (3:1-4:31)

A. By Doctrinal Argument (3:1-4:11)

1. The Argument Introduced: The Experience of the Galatians (vs. 1-5)

2. The Argument Continued: The Teaching of the Old Testament (vs. 6-11)

a. The Example of Abraham (vs. 6-9)

b. The Curse of the Law (vs. 10-14)

3. The Argument Illustrated: The Binding Nature of Human Covenants (vs. 15-18)

4. The Argument Expanded: The Role of the Law (vs. 19-24)

a. Why the Law? (vs. 19, 20)

b. Is the Law contrary to the promises of God? (vs. 21-24)

-Law and promise don't contradict each other. They complement each other (vs. 21, 22).

-The Law is preparatory for Christ (v. 22).

-The Law functions like a jailer who keeps prisoners locked up, then hands them over to Christ (v. 23).

-The Law functions like a guardian who disciplines minor children with a view to their justification (v. 24).

Practical Lessons

1) It happens at some points in history, that relatively few understand God's redemptive purposes revealed in the Bible.

2) The Law reveals God in His holiness, man in his sinfulness, and Christ in His completeness.