

FREE AT LAST! THE MESSAGE OF GALATIANS
December 17, 2009
The Spiritual Gospel – Galatians 3:1-5

There are two key mysteries to the Christian life, both received by faith.

3:1

I. Christ crucified has been presented to us.

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

“The gospel is not good advice to men, but good news about Christ; not an invitation to us to do anything, but a declaration of what God has done; not a demand, but an offer.”

- - John R. W. Stott

3:2-5

II. The Holy Spirit has been given to us.

:2

A. We receive the Spirit by faith.

“I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?”

1. We must receive Him.

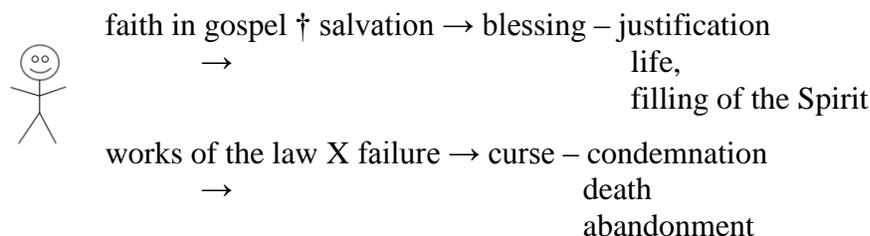
“Without the Spirit of God we can do nothing. We are as ships without wind or chariots without horses. Like branches without sap, we are withered. Like coals without fire, we are useless. As an offering without the sacrificial flame, we are unacceptable.”

- - Charles H. Spurgeon

cf. Jn. 3:1-8; Acts 19:1-6; Rom. 8:9, 16; I John 3:24; 4:13; Eph. 1:13, 14

2. We receive Him by faith not by works.

cf. Acts 2:38, 39



:3

B. We continue in the Spirit by faith.

“Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?”

cf. Gal. 5:16

:4

C. We persevere through suffering by faith.

“Have you suffered so much for nothing – if it really was for nothing?”

cf. 2 Cor. 1:24

:5

D. We experience the Spirit’s power by faith.

“Does God give you His Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?”

cf. Phil. 4:13; Col. 1:11; I Pet. 1:5

End