### Galatians

## Chapter 3

1O you foolish Galatians… Yes, you whose eyes have seen what was written about Jesus the Anointed One being impaled!  
  
Who has cast this evil spell over you?  
  
2I just want to ask you this one thing:  
  
Did you receive [God’s] Spirit because you were obeying the [Jewish] Law, or because you believed in the things that [you] heard?  
  
3Are you really so foolish?  
  
Did you start out in the Spirit just to end up in the flesh?  
  
4And did you go through so much suffering for no reason?  
  
Well, if there really wasn’t any reason for your doing that, 5then, did the One who gave you His Spirit, and performs powerful works through you, do this because you’re obeying the [Jewish] Law, or because you put faith in the things that you heard?  
  
6Remember that:  
  
 ‘AbraHam was considered righteous because he put his faith in God.’ [Genesis 15:6]  
  
7So, don’t you know that all who have such faith are the sons of AbraHam?  
  
8Now, the reason why God gave the good news to AbraHam was because He saw ahead of time that He’d be calling gentiles ‘righteous’ due to their faith.  
  
For He said:  
  
 ‘All the nations will be blest because of you.’ [Genesis 18:18]  
  
9Therefore, those who have such faith are being blest along with faithful AbraHam!  
  
10Now, everyone who’s under the [Jewish] Law is under a curse, because it’s written:  
  
 ‘Any man who doesn’t observe and obey all the words of this Law is cursed!’ [Deuteronomy 27:26, LXX]  
  
11So it’s obvious that nobody is called ‘righteous’ before God because of obeying the [Jewish] Law.  
  
 ‘For it’s by their faith that the righteous will live.’ [Habakkuk 2:4]  
  
12However, the Law really doesn’t have anything to do with faith; rather:  
  
 ‘The man doing these things will live by them.’ [Leviticus 18:5]  
  
13And the Anointed One bought our freedom from the [Jewish] Law’s curse by becoming a curse on our behalf.  
  
For it’s written:  
  
 ‘Anyone who’s hung on timber is cursed before God.’ [Deuteronomy 21:23, LXX]  
  
14Therefore, the reason why this happened to him was so that the blessing of AbraHam could come through Jesus the Anointed One, and so that the other races could receive the promised Spirit… Which [we’ve received] because of our faith!  
  
  
15Brothers, allow me to explain this in human terms:  
  
Nobody can change or destroy a valid agreement between men.  
  
16And notice that the promise was given to ‘AbraHam and his descendant.’ It doesn’t say, ‘to his descendants,’ like there were many of them, but only to one, ‘his descendant’ – who is the Anointed One! [Genesis 12:7 or Genesis 13:15]  
  
17Moreover, I tell you that the Sacred Agreement which was confirmed by The God some 430 years earlier, which the [Jewish] Law came from, didn’t overwrite the promise that He gave [to AbraHam].  
  
18So if we could only receive the inheritance by [following] the [Jewish] Law, it couldn’t have come from the promise [to AbraHam]!  
  
[Yet, notice how] God granted this favor to AbraHam as a promise.  
  
19So, why [do we have] the [Jewish] Law?  
  
It was added to show us what sin was before the descendant (the one about whom the promise was given) would arrive!  
  
And this was entrusted to the hands of a mediator by [angelic] messengers.  
  
20However, there’s no need for a mediator when only one person is involved… And God is just one.  
  
[Therefore, it was just a promise].  
  
21Then did the [Jewish] Law override God’s promise [to AbraHam]?  
  
May that never be so!  
  
For if the [Jewish] Law had been provided to give [people] life, then the result of following the [Jewish] Law would be righteousness.  
  
22However, following these scriptures just locked everyone up in sin, so that the promise might be given to those who believe through their faith in Jesus the Anointed One.  
  
23Yes, before faith arrived, we were all locked up and prisoners to the [Jewish] Law until the things about faith were revealed.  
  
24So the Law was just the guide that led us to the Anointed One and [to the promise] that we could be counted as righteous by our faith... 25And now that the faith has arrived, we don’t need the guide anymore!  
  
26The fact is, you’ve all become sons of God through your faith in the Anointed Jesus.  
  
27Indeed, everyone who’s immersed into the Anointed One has put on the Anointed One.  
  
28So there’s no [difference] between Jew and Syrian, nor slave and freeman, nor male and female... Because you’re all in the Anointed Jesus!  
  
29And if you belong to the Anointed One –as the promise told us– you’re AbraHam’s descendant and his heirs!