

Sermon by Rev. Tommy Allen
"The Promise"
Galatians 3:15-22

Children's sermon outlines are available from the ushers.

¹⁵ To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. ¹⁷ This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. ²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

(ESV)

Sermon Notes

July 4, 2010

Sermon by Rev. Tommy Allen
"The Promise"
Galatians 3:15-22

Children's sermon outlines are available from the ushers.

¹⁵ To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. ¹⁷ This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. ²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.

²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

(ESV)

Sermon Notes

July 4, 2010

Small Group Study Questions Galatians 3:15-22

1. What struck you as most important, prominent, or even confusing in today's sermon? Can you summarize it?

2. Paul compares God's *promise* given to Abraham with God's *Law* given to Moses (vv. 15-18).
 - How does Paul compare them?

 - Why and how is the Old Testament's timeline important to Paul's arguments?

3. What, then, is the purpose(s) of "the Law" (verses 19-20)?
 - Can you think of any ways in which you/we misuse God's Law?

4. Are God's promises and God's Law incompatible? Why or why not?
 - How does Jesus reconcile law and promise?

 - What role does/should the Law play in your life?

Small Group Study Questions Galatians 3:15-22

1. What struck you as most important, prominent, or even confusing in today's sermon? Can you summarize it?

2. Paul compares God's *promise* given to Abraham with God's *Law* given to Moses (vv. 15-18).
 - How does Paul compare them?

 - Why and how is the Old Testament's timeline important to Paul's arguments?

3. What, then, is the purpose(s) of "the Law" (verses 19-20)?
 - Can you think of any ways in which you/we misuse God's Law?

4. Are God's promises and God's Law incompatible? Why or why not?
 - How does Jesus reconcile law and promise?

 - What role does/should the Law play in your life?