

# I. Sola Fide — Faith and Adoption as Sons

## A. Fight for the Authentic Gospel of Radical Freedom

### 1. Freedom and Rescue *[slide 1]*

[Galatians 1:3-4](#) **Grace** to you and **peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who **gave himself** for our sins **to deliver us from the present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father,”

After 3 years visited Peter and James

### 2. Justification unto Freedom

[Galatians 5:1](#) (ESV) **For freedom** Christ has **set us free**; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

## B. Controversy that Sets the Stage - Judaizers, Cultural pressure Peter

## C. Paul’s Fight for FAITH & FREEDOM

[Galatians 2:14](#) But when I saw that their conduct was not in step (*Lit - walking straight*) with the **truth of the gospel**, I said to Cephas before them all,...

[Galatians 2:16](#) ...we know that a person is **not justified by works** of the law **but through faith in Jesus Christ**, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and **not by works** of the law, because **by works** of the law **no one will be justified.**”

## B. No Turning Back...

[Galatians 2:18](#) For **if I rebuild what I tore down**, I prove myself to be a transgressor.

## C. The Life I Now Live *[slide 2]*

[20](#) I have been **crucified with Christ**. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the **life I now live** in the flesh **I live by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

## II. Faith Brings Us to the Freedom of Sonship

### A. Don't Underestimate Faith! (3:1-5)

#### 1. Do not discount encounters

[Galatians 3:1-5](#) O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was **before your eyes** that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified.

2 Let me ask you only this: Did you **receive the Spirit** by **works** of the law or by **hearing with faith**?

3 Are you so foolish? **Having begun by the Spirit**, are you now being **perfected by the flesh**?

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain?

(NEB) Have **all your great experiences** been in vain...?

5 Does he who **supplies the Spirit** to you and **works miracles among you** do so **by** works of the law, or **by hearing with faith**—

(This is **GRACE - received the Spirit, supernatural evidence by hearing with FAITH**)

#### 2. Unusual experiences might be encounters

**Unusual Experience** — Thursday I was helping Anne by shopping for our guests this weekend. At Green Ridge Grocers in a bit of a traffic jam... eggs, milk, mother with 2 little girls (3 & 5?). The older one started doing things to catch my attention. Wiping down the upright freezer case doors with a plastic bag, looking to see if I would notice and smile. Later, she caught my attention again... “You are very busy!” Finally, as I was checking out and she left her mother, came over, and stood by me, speaking to me softly, I leaned down to hear her, “My name is Faith.” I told her that Faith is very important. Then she told me, “My sister is Eden.” “Faith and Eden are beautiful names...” She returned to her mother.

Later, I realized that God had given me a parable... **Faith pursues us**. Faith will lead us into **restoration** and **original purpose**.

**We must hear with faith**— Hearing of FAITH is precedes WORKS

### B. Sons of Abraham - Faith, Righteousness and Adoption (6-9)

[Galatians 3:6](#)(ESV) just as **Abraham “believed God**, and it was **counted** to him as **righteousness**”? **G 15:6**

<sup>7</sup> Know then that it is **those of faith** who are the **sons of Abraham**.

A **shocking statement!** Adoption & Inherited Blessings Abraham was JUSTIFIED as a Gentile.

[slide 3] <sup>8</sup> And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would **justify the Gentiles by faith**, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”

<sup>9</sup> So then, **those who are of faith** are **blessed** along **with Abraham**, the man of faith.

(For Galatians **GRACE - adoption, justified, blessed out of FAITH**)

[The **Judaizers** — **Must be circumcised** to be sons (heirs of the blessing) of Abraham as per [Gen 17](#)]

### C. Relying on Works or Living From Faith? (10-12)

[Galatians 3:10](#)(ESV) For **all who rely on works** of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not **abide** by **all things** written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”

[Deuteronomy 27:26](#) (ESV) ‘Cursed be anyone who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them.’ And all the people shall say, ‘Amen.’

11 Now it is evident that **no one is justified before God by the law**, for “The **righteous shall live by faith.**”

<sup>12</sup> But **the law** is **not of faith**, rather “The one who does them shall **live by them.**”

### D. Work of Christ and the Promise (13-14)

[Galatians 3:13](#)(ESV) Christ **redeemed us** from the curse of the law **by becoming a curse for us**—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— **[slide 4]**

**14** so that **in Christ** Jesus the **blessing of Abraham** might come to the Gentiles, so that we might **receive the promised Spirit through faith.**

*The **Curse of the Law** is based in our own inability to PERFECTLY keep the Law.*

## E. Permanence of Faith (15-18)

[Galatians 3:15](#) 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**.”

*All the Promises are Yes in Christ. Holy Spirit pours FAITH that God keeps His promises **onto** and **into** us. Sanctification and Participation!*

## F. Law Has Limits But Leads to Christ (19-25)

1. To distinguish boundaries: sin from righteousness, holy from degraded, order from confusion.

2. It would create a people (culture) into which the Seed would come, Who would send the Promise.

For two glorious summers (88-89), the Chicago Cubs taught baseball fans the fundamentals of Reformation theology. First the Cubs made a trade for **Vance Law** and started him at third base. Then a few months later, they brought first baseman **Mark Grace** up from the minor leagues. There they were, **right next to each other in the batting order**: Law and Grace. They were in the proper order, too, **first Grace, batting in the fifth position**, and **then Law**. For as Paul explained to the Galatians, **God gave grace to Abraham before he gave Moses the law**. And there they stood on the baseball diamond—Grace and Law—holding down the opposite corners of the infield. Opposing batters would smash the ball to third, where Law would knock it down and throw it over to first for the out. Theology in action: **Law to Grace** to retire the challengers.

Law and grace are not opponents; they are teammates working together for the salvation of God’s people. The **law leads to grace**, which is to be found only in Christ. This is what Paul demonstrated as he answered the question: “Why then the law?” (Gal. 3:19).

[Galatians 3:19](#)(ESV) **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.

<sup>20</sup> Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. (A Reconciler)

<sup>21</sup> 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.

### 3. Torah teaches us how to live

<sup>22</sup> But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, **so that the promise** by faith in Jesus Christ **might be given** to **those who believe.**

MIGHT BE GIVEN — **subjunctive mood**

<sup>23</sup> Now **before faith came**, we were **held captive under the law**, imprisoned **until the coming faith** would be revealed.

<sup>24</sup> So **then**, the **law** was our **guardian\*** **until Christ came**, in order that we **might be justified** by faith.

\*custodian, moral ethical guardian, tutor of children  
MIGHT BE

<sup>25</sup> But **now** that **faith has come**, we are **no longer under a guardian**, [Holy Spirit now guiding us]

## G. Every Category Enveloped by the Adoption as Sons (25-29)

[Galatians 3:26](#) (ESV) for **in Christ** Jesus you **are ALL sons of God**, through faith.

<sup>27</sup> For **as many** of you as were **baptized** into Christ have put on Christ. (**Clothed with Christ**)

<sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for **you are all one** in Christ Jesus. [slide 5]

<sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, **heirs** according to **promise.**

**What is the sign of our covenant? Holy Spirit**

### III. Life in the Spirit — Paul’s Gospel

#### A. Promise of the Father

A LIFE OF LOVE, SHALOM, and POWER

[Luke 24:49](#) And behold, I am sending ***the promise of my Father upon you***. But **stay** in the city **until** you are ***clothed with power from on high***.

SUPERNATURAL LIFE — participating in the Promises of

#### B. Life in the Spirit — Living as Sons

[Galatians 5:1](#) For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

[Galatians 5:16](#) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

[Romans 8:14](#) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. **15** For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but ***you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons***, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!””

KINGDOM OF GOD is LIFE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

### V. Daily - Come, Drink, Fill

**Pour Love into My Heart**

**Guide into All the Truth**

Reveal the Father & the Son —

Spirit of Adoption— Abba Father

Open the Eyes of my heart, that I might know

**Breathe in the Breath of Christ — Drink the River that Makes Glad**

**Liberate, Deliver**

**Sanctify — supernatural access, divine nature**

**Fill to overflowing (rivers to flow)**

**Convict, convince of sin, righteousness, and judgment**

**Repentance – transform my mind**

**Clothe in Light, Fire, Wind, Oil,**

**Saturate**

**Empower**

**Speak to and through**

**Unpack the Gifts**