

September 16, 2018 – Galatians 3a

# TRUE LIFE

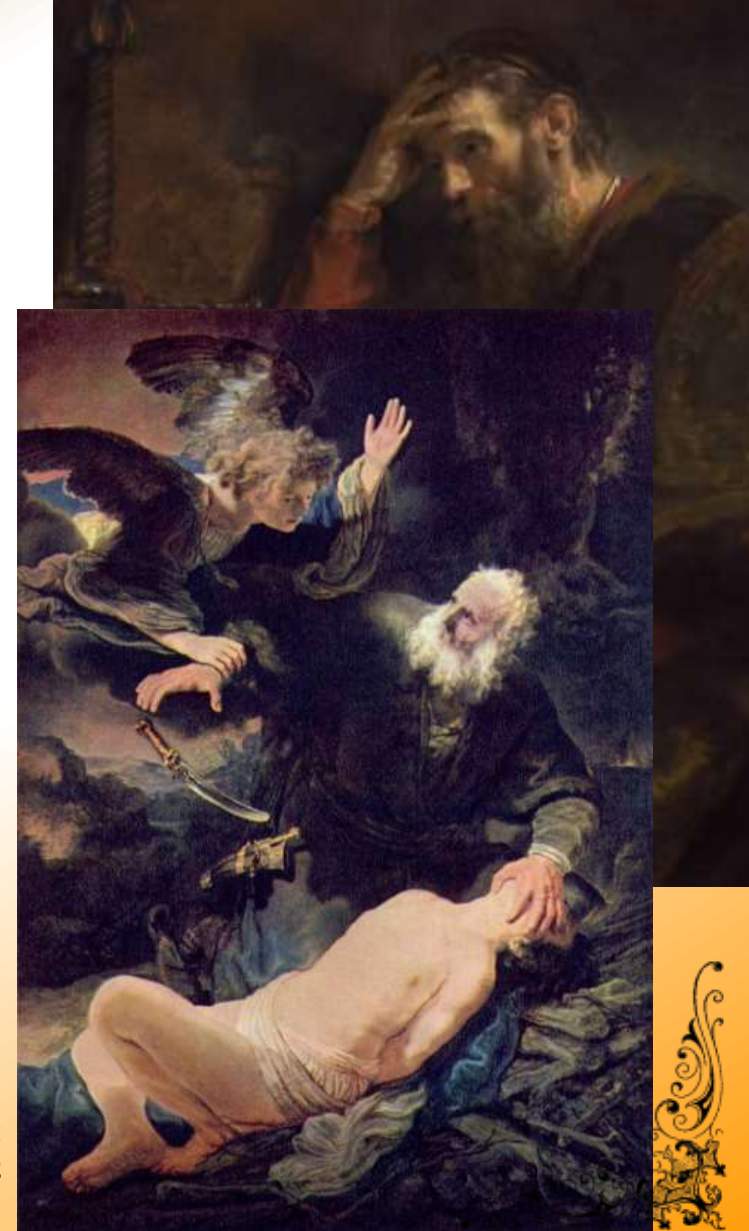


## Live Cursed or Live by FAITH




Angel Hinders the Offering of Isaac  
1634, by Rembrandt

previous lessons here  
[PreciousHeart.net/SS](http://PreciousHeart.net/SS)





## Galatians

Sept 2	True Gospel	1	No Other under Heaven
Sept 9	True Grace	2	How Many Puny Pillars Did Pugnacious Paul Pillory?
Sept 16	True Life	3a	Righteous Live by Faith
 Sept 23	True Heirs	3b	Faith Sets Free, Priority of the Promise
Sept 30	True Freedom	4	Remember the Hug, Priority of the Hug
Oct 7	True Fruit	5	Flesh vs. Spirit, Love One Another Fast Flee the Fiery Flesh Fancy Not the Fickle Flesh
Oct 14	True Compassion	6	Saints with Scars, Treasures of Doing Good



## Theme

**Jesus died in our place, taking on  
Himself the CURSE of our sin.**



### Galatians

**3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?**

**3:6-9 Abraham Believed It – “Gospel” Through Abraham**

**3:10-14 CURSE Demands It – Righteous Live by FAITH**

**We LIVE by FAITH**





**Key Verse – Galatians 3:14**

**He redeemed us in order that the  
BLESSING given to Abraham might  
COME to the Gentiles through**

**Christ Jesus**

**so that by FAITH we might receive  
the PROMISE of the Spirit.**



**Alternative Title**

**Righteous**

**LIVE by**

**FAITH**



# Great Philosopher Hagär the Horrible at home with wife Helga & Mother-in-Law



Unlike Hagär's Mother-in-law, Paul is NOT  
Trying to be *CROSS* ... yet  
He is Crystal Clear about the *CURSE*







**Alternative Title #2**

**Case of the  
Crystal Clear Curse  
Made Clearer**

Alternative Title #3



**Live Cursed**

*or*

**LIVE by**

**FAITH**

**Those ARE the Choices**





We know now ...

**Chap. 1 – Crystal Clear Curse –  
Anyone espousing a different gospel**

**Let them be under God's CURSE**

**Chap. 2 – We saw Paul Pillory the Puny Pillars  
Punish the Kingdom Cutters' Propaganda  
Offer a Profoundly Precious Postulate:**

**Not justified by the LAW,  
but ONLY by Faith in Christ**

**Treasure today expounds the above?**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?**

**Hopefully—having Fortified the Fearsome  
Force of the Curse ... and the Finality of**

**our Fortunate Forgiving  
FAITH Solely in Christ**

**Not really CROSS, Paul waxes a bit *sarcastic***

**<sup>1</sup> You foolish Galatians!  
Who has bewitched you?**

**Clearly ... Paul is not finished yet  
Reason for writing ... Galatians had *FALLEN***

**Some Fools had Foiled their Faith**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?**

**So Paul ... with Fearsome Curse and the**

**Finality of FAITH**

**Forces the Galatians to FIGURE the Cost**

**1 You foolish Galatians!**

**Who has bewitched you?**

**Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was  
clearly portrayed as crucified.**

**COST of this Fantastic Justification  
nothing less than**


**Christ Crucified**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain







As soon as Paul said this ... *I suspect*  
They recollected many fireside chats  
Now many times ... how many ways  
One evening, Paul walked  
them through Gethsemane

Another night—Paul's throat was sore,  
He *whispered to them* Christ's torment

- ✓ Christ's humiliation by Roman guards
- ✓ Whispered to them the Crown of Thorns
- ✓ Then with a tear in his eye ... whipping

**Cat of Nine Tails**



You must **KNOW** ... I **KNOW** you know ...  
You **HAVE** to know ... Paul's 13 Profoundly  
**Exquisite Letters**


Are **ONLY** ... solely ... the  
Quintessence of his teaching  
Just the bare elements ...

It was *costly* to Produce **EACH** Letter  
More Costly & Laborious to **REPRODUCE**  
In Paul's 5,000+ miles of his travels ...

**LISTEN to THIS**







I know you **KNOW** now ... in all his journeys  
You **HAVE** to know ... some people

**Knew *NOTHING***

Paul's visits in Galatia ...

All they knew were **JEWS**

- ✓ Knew Greek & Roman Gods
- ✓ Many knew **NOTHING** of Real Christ
- ✓ Some surely **HEARD** tidbits


Heard the Preposterous Propaganda

But Paul was the **FIRST MISSIONARY** to

**Preach Christ's Divinity!**







Lands were **ALREADY ANCIENT** of Days in  
**A.D. 55**


Passage thru the Cilician Gates  
**ALREADY** old and worn

Ethnic towns in Roman *hands*

- ✓ Knew the Golden Greek Age 450 B.C.
- ✓ Fantastically Plush Ephesus  
**STILL** Fascinated the Fanciest
- ✓ Merchant Magnificence of Corinth
- ✓ Delusions of the Oracle of Delphi  
**STILL** Delighted High-paying

**Pagan Patrons**





**LONG** before his exquisite letter to them ...

When he tasted their bar-b-que ...

When visited them by campfire light

How many times had they heard about

**Earthquake**

About the tearing of the Temple Curtain

About the Seven Words from the Cross

**THIS** exquisite letter is too **SMALL**

*So much MISSING ... as I've said every quarter*

Just the essence of a longer

**Heartfelt Message**





3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?

Feel with me in verse 1 ... *if you please* ...

**So Much Missing**

**1 You foolish Galatians!**

**Who has bewitched you?**

**Before your very eyes Jesus Christ  
was clearly PORTRAYED as crucified.**

**COST of this Fantastic Justification**

**nothing less than**

**Christ Crucified**





### 3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?

With those memories recalled ...

Paul recalls ANOTHER experience

*Can't deny what we've EXPERIENCED*

<sup>2</sup> I would like to learn just one thing from you:

Did you receive the Spirit by the works of  
the LAW, or by BELIEVING what you heard?

That can be a rhetorical question ...

A question Paul knows they will concur with

Or it's a SHAMEFUL question ... one that went

Kind of **GONG**

They say, “Yes, yes, yes ... of **COURSE**, Paul!”



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



## 3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?

Rhetorical or Revelatory ... no difference

- Paul quickened their hearts to SEE ... *then*
- Paul Drills his Darn Drama into them

<sup>3</sup> Are you so foolish?

After **BEGINNING** by means of the Spirit,  
are you now trying to **FINISH** by  
means of the **FLESH**?

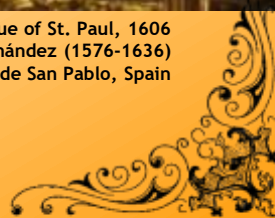
<sup>4</sup> Have you **EXPERIENCED** so much in **VAIN**—  
if it really was in **VAIN**?

**THAT's** rhetorical ... assuming a **CLEAR**

**Of Course NOT!**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?**

Paul again drills in the rhetorical  
assuming a **STRONGER “of Course NOT!”**

**5 So again I ask,**  
does God give you his **SPIRIT** and  
work **MIRACLES** among you by the  
works of the law  
or by your **BELIEVING** what you heard?

Of course not ... ‘twas by **What we HEARD!**

**Not Works, but the GOSPEL**

**Of course—no WORK for God’s Grace**

Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





### 3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?

There is 20th Century clarification TOO

does God give you his SPIRIT and  
work MIRACLES among you by the

works of the law

Of course not ... BUT TODAY ... there are

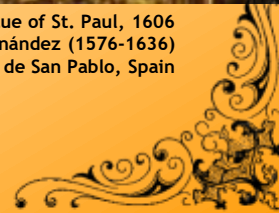
**OTHER Gospels**

Gospels saying “Receive the SPIRIT”

- ✓ Additionally to your “Salvation” ...
- ✓ Additionally to your “Justification” ...
- ✓ Must have “laying on of hands” – **pooof!**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?**

**God give you his SPIRIT & work MIRACLES**

**Galatians KNEW the connection between**

**Spirit & Miracles**

**NOT like today ... NOT where the “miracles”**

- ✓ **Are RARE & “Here and There” ...**
- ✓ **Are “Mostly Under a Tent” or at the “Show”**
- ✓ **Are NEVER, *EVER* down a Hospital Ward**
- ✓ **Are ALWAYS a FEW “testimonies”**

**NOT SO to the Galatians ... or Ephesians**

**Paul did MIRACLES in the MARKET**



**3:1-5 Spirit Confirms It – By Works or By Believing?**

**does God give you his SPIRIT and  
work MIRACLES among you by the  
works of the law**

**No ... NOT by the Works of the LAW**

**But by BELIEVING**

**What they HEARD**

**Wasn't that Paul's preaching was so good**

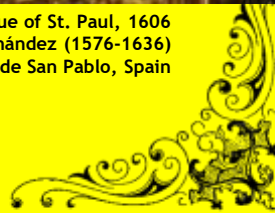
**But it was the SPIRIT working through the**

**Preaching of the WORD**

**Preaching Had CENTER STAGE**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**3:6-9 Abraham Believed It –  
“Gospel” Through Abraham**

**Reminding them of their EXPERIENCE ... *next***

**Paul reminds them of their HISTORY**

**<sup>6</sup> So also Abraham “believed God, and  
it was credited to him as righteousness.”**

**<sup>7</sup> Understand, then, that those who have faith  
are children of Abraham.**

**Paul reaches back to FAITH’s Critical Stage**

**God had a PLAN ... from Adam ... Noah ...**

**To the very PROMISE ... look close**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain

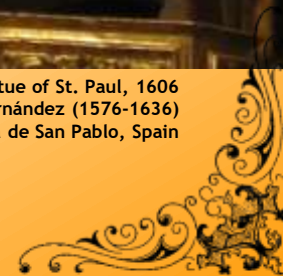




**Abraham's Departure, 1850 by József Molnár**



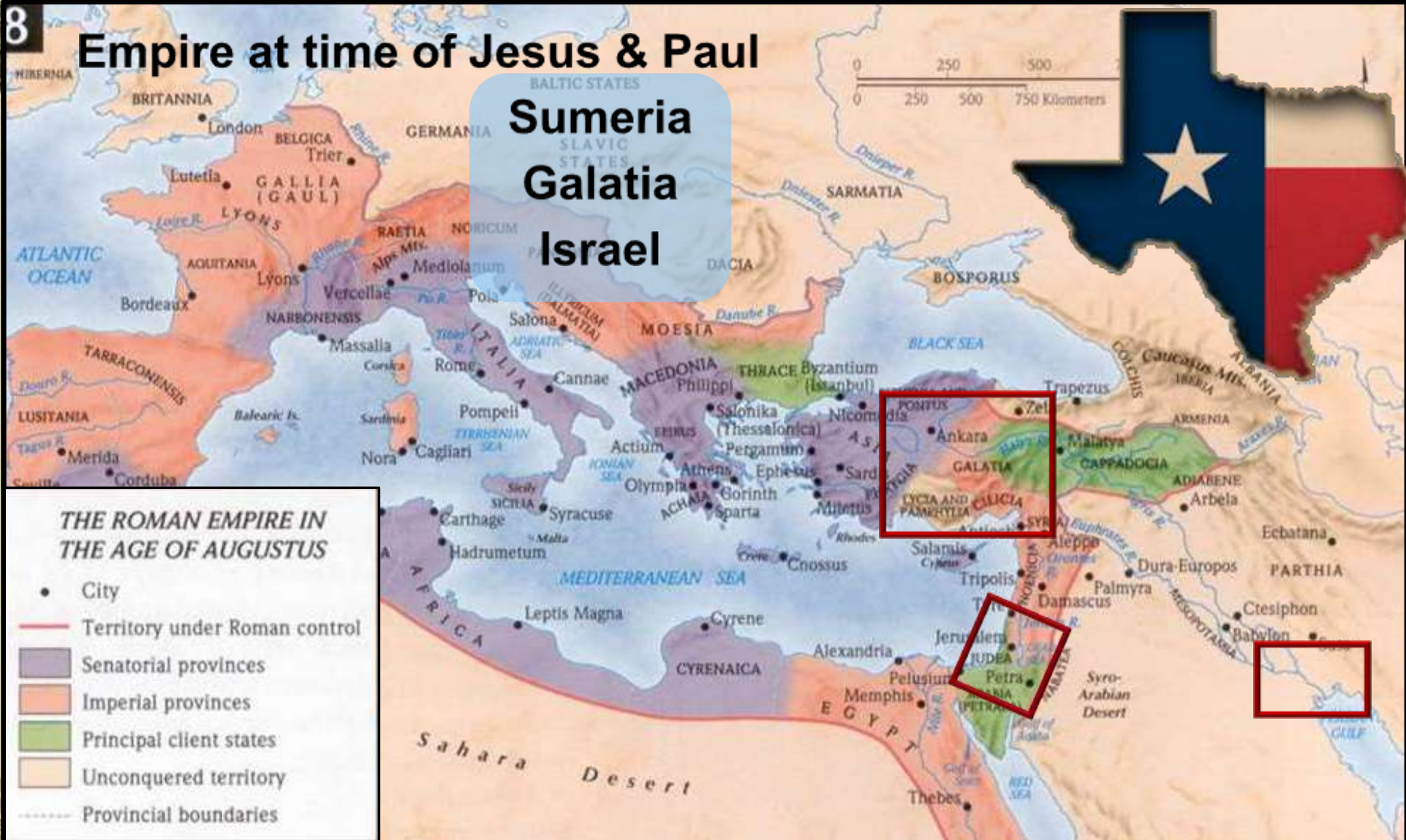
**Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain**





# Empire at time of Jesus & Paul

Sumeria  
Galatia  
Israel



**THE ROMAN EMPIRE IN THE AGE OF AUGUSTUS**

- City
- Territory under Roman control
- Senatorial provinces
- Imperial provinces
- Principal client states
- Unconquered territory
- Provincial boundaries



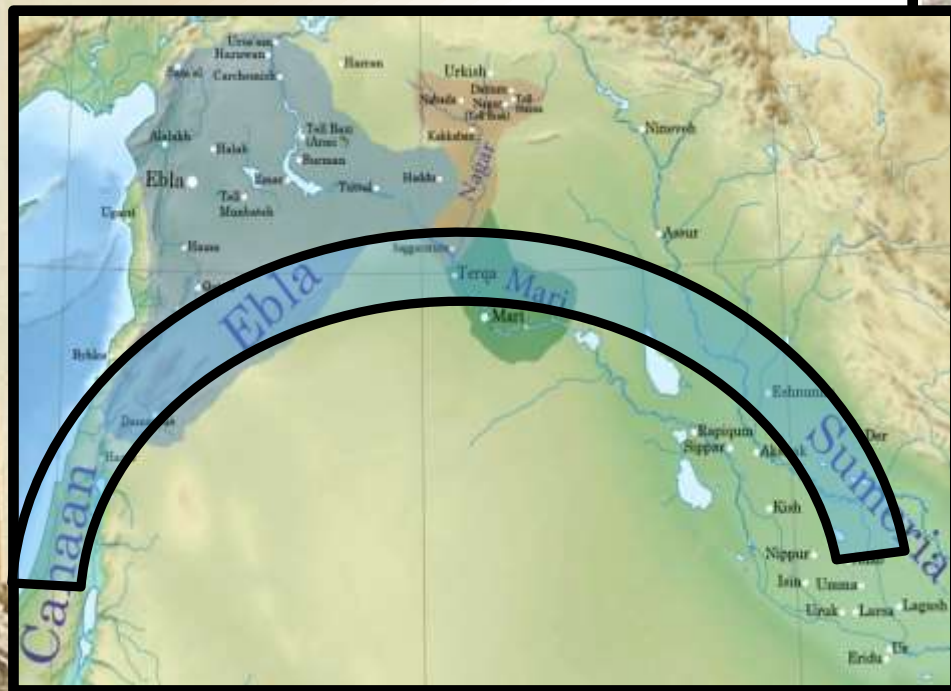


# Fertile Crescent Today

Fertile Crescent in 2500 B.C.

**CRESCENT** runs up from Ur thru  
Tigris & Euphrates Rivers  
Down to Israel or Canaan

Sumeria  
Galatia  
Israel





Abraham's CALL from Ur of the Chaldees  
God LED him to a place he KNEW not

Genesis 15f  
God leads him  
to Canaan

See Texas  
Then to

Hebron

Abraham ... the  
Father of  
FAITH



Abraham's Departure, 1850  
by József Molnár



Satellite of Israel  
Western side of  
**Fertile Crescent**





# Abraham becomes a Tribe unto himself



Caravan of Abraham, c. 1896-1902  
by James Tissot



# Timeline ... from BibleHub.com ... *estimated*

**Creation**  
c. 4000



Before Time	In the Beginning was the Word	<a href="#">John 1</a>
Before 4000 BC	The Creation	<a href="#">Genesis 1</a>
Before 4000 BC	The Garden of Eden	<a href="#">Genesis 2</a>
Before 4000 BC	The Fall of Man	<a href="#">Genesis 3</a>
Before 3000 BC	Cain kills Abel	<a href="#">Genesis 4</a>
Before 3000 BC	From Adam to Noah	<a href="#">Genesis 5</a>
Before 2500 BC	Wickedness Provokes God's wrath	<a href="#">Genesis 6</a>
Before 2500 BC	The Great Flood	<a href="#">Genesis 7</a>
Before 2500 BC	The Flood Subsides	<a href="#">Genesis 8</a>
Before 2500 BC	Covenant of the Rainbow	<a href="#">Genesis 9</a>
Before 2500 BC	Shem, Ham and Japheth	<a href="#">Genesis 10</a>
Before 2100 BC	Job's Suffering and Faith	<a href="#">Job 1 - 42</a>
Before 2100 BC	The Tower of Babel	<a href="#">Genesis 11</a>
2091 BC	God Sends Abram to Egypt	<a href="#">Genesis 12</a>
2090 BC	The Famine in Canaan	<a href="#">Genesis 12:10</a>
2085 BC	Abram and Lot Part Ways	<a href="#">Genesis 13</a>

**Noah**  
c. 3000



**Flood**  
c. 2500



**Rainbow**  
c. 2500



**Babel**  
c. 2100



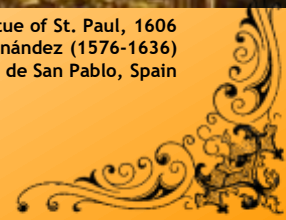
**God calls Abraham**  
c. 2091



**By Faith**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





## Promise

c. 2085

## Covenant

c. 2081

## Circumcision

c. 2067

## Promises Isaac

c. 2067

## Isaac Born

c. 2066

## Offering of Isaac

c. 2054

## Death of

## Abraham

c. 2091



2085 BC Abram Promised Many Descendants

By Faith



2084 BC Abram Rescues Lot

Genesis 14



2081 BC God's Covenant with Abram

By Faith



2081 BC Sarai and Hagar

Genesis 16

2080 BC Ishmael Born

Genesis 16:15



2067 BC The Covenant of Circumcision

By Faith

2067 BC God Promises the Birth of Isaac

By Faith

2067 BC The Destruction of Sodom

Genesis 19

2067 BC Abraham, Sarah and Abimelech

Genesis 20



2066 BC Isaac Born

By Faith

2064 BC Hagar and Ishmael Sent Away

Genesis 21:8

2057 BC The Treaty at Beersheba

Genesis 21:22

2054 BC The Offering of Isaac

By Faith

Genesis 22

2030 BC Death and Burial of Sarah

Genesis 23

2026 BC Isaac Marries Rebekah

Genesis 24

2006 BC Birth of Jacob and Esau

Genesis 25



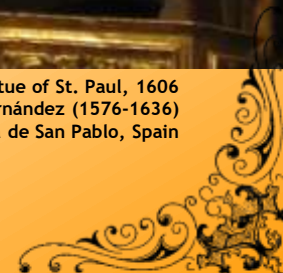
1991 BC Death of Abraham

in FAITH

Genesis 25:5



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





Abraham  
BELIEVED  
GOD  
FAITH

See my book  
[Would You Lie  
to Save a Life?](#)

for more on  
this question



Sacrifice of Isaac, 1602, by Caravaggio

Angel Hinders the Offering of Isaac  
1634, by Rembrandt

Abraham  
BELIEVED  
GOD  
FAITH

See my book  
[Would You Lie  
to Save a Life?](#)

for more on  
this question





3:6-9 Abraham Believed It – “Gospel” Through Abraham

*Understand* that Abraham was a  
**Man of FAITH**

Abraham BELIEVED God ... by *FAITH*

**FAITH – Trust, Belief, Confidence in GOD**

**FAITH – 1 John 5:5 To Overcome the World**

**FAITH – 1 John 5:13 To have Eternal Life**

**FAITH – John 1:12 Become Children of God**

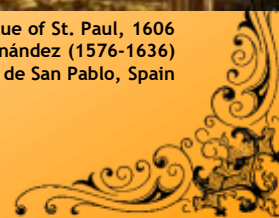
**FAITH – John 3:16 Not Perish, have Eternal Life**

**FAITH – John 3:18 Not Condemned**

**FAITH – John 6:35 Never go Hungry or Thirsty**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain







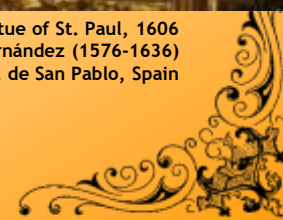
You understand that Abraham was a  
**Man of FAITH**

- FAITH** – Rom. 10:9 **Will Be Saved**
- FAITH** – Rom. 10:10 **Will Be Justified**
- FAITH** – Mat. 17:20 **Nothing Impossible**
- FAITH** – Mat. 21:21 **Mountain Mover**
- FAITH** – John 11:25f **Will LIVE ... Never Die**
- FAITH** – 1 Peter 1:7 **Greater than Gold**
- FAITH** – Heb. 11 ***GREAT* Cloud of Witnesses**

**FAITH** Substance of things **HOPED** for &  
**EVIDENCE** of things **NOT SEEN.**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**3:6-9 Abraham Believed It –  
“Gospel” Through Abraham**

**Paul clearly connects Abraham to Christ**

**<sup>8</sup> Scripture *FORESAW* that God would  
justify the Gentiles by **FAITH**, and**

**announced the gospel**

**in **ADVANCE** to Abraham:**

**“**ALL** nations will be blessed through you.”**

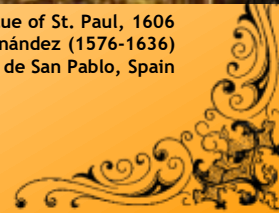
**<sup>9</sup> So those who rely on **FAITH** are blessed  
along with Abraham, the Man of **FAITH**.**

**God **SPOKE** to Abraham**

**Abraham **BELIEVED** God**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**3:10-14 Curse Demands It – Righteous Live by Faith**

**Consequences HARD for NOT having FAITH**

**<sup>10</sup> For all who rely on the WORKS of the law are under a CURSE, as it is written:**

**CURSED is everyone who does NOT continue to do EVERYTHING written in the Book of the Law.**

**Standard set by God has NOT changed**

**Standard LIVED by Christ has NOT changed**

**And most of all ... for ALL humanity**

**Curse Has NOT Changed**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**3:10-14 Curse Demands It – Righteous Live by Faith**

**You understand that PART of our**

**Great Salvation**

**Is that SOME Are NOT Saved**

**Paul assumes NO ONE wants to be CURSED**

**Paul assumes NO ONE wants to be LOST**

**What we have today ... all too often ...**

**Is ANOTHER Gospel that bypasses the**

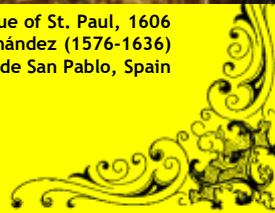
**CURSE**

**There Is a Clear Condemnation**

**For Those who DO NOT BELIEVE**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**3:10-14 Curse Demands It – Righteous Live by Faith**

**Paul not ease up ... CASE is so very clearly**

**CURSED or  
LIVE by Faith**

**<sup>11</sup> Clearly no one who relies on the law  
is justified before God, because the  
“righteous will LIVE by FAITH.”**

**<sup>12</sup> The LAW is NOT based on FAITH;  
on the contrary, it says,  
“The person who does these things  
will LIVE by them.”**

**Habakkuk  
2:4**

Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**3:10-14 Curse Demands It – Righteous Live by Faith**

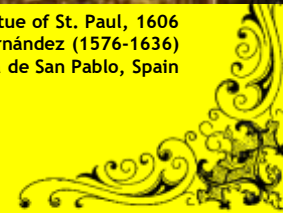
**Gospel – Good Message – Good News is**

**<sup>13</sup> Christ REDEEMED us from the CURSE of the LAW by becoming a CURSE for us, for it is written: “CURSED is everyone who is hung on a pole.”**

**<sup>14</sup> He REDEEMED us in order that the BLESSING given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by FAITH we might receive the Promise of the Spirit.**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





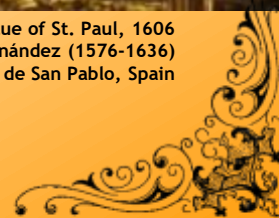
**BLESSING to Abraham—to Gentiles—to US  
through Christ Jesus,  
by FAITH ... to receive the  
Promise of the Spirit.**

**British Methodist Adam Clarke (1760–1832),  
Commentary on the whole Bible by one man – 6 vols, 1,000pp each  
Used by Methodists as a great resource for over a century**

**Promise of the Spirit: spirit of adoption,  
sonship with God; and the  
Spirit of God to attest that sonship....  
only gave that law that the exceeding  
sinfulness of sin might appear**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**BLESSING to Abraham—to Gentiles—to US  
through Christ Jesus,  
by FAITH ... to receive the  
Promise of the Spirit.**

**Presbyterian Albert Barnes (1798–1870)**

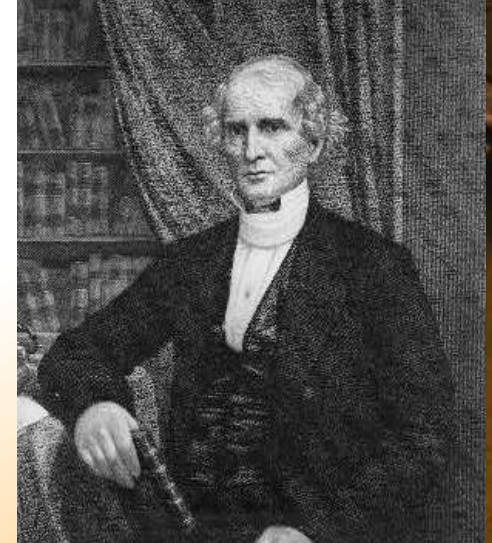
Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia (1830–1868)

Famous for his 14 vol. commentary on O.T. & N.T.

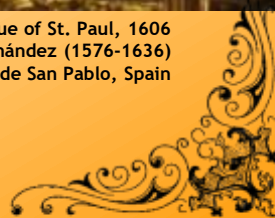
**Promise of the Spirit, or promised Spirit ...  
all the blessings [of Christianity] ...  
evidently the miraculous ... Holy Spirit;**

**Then Barnes very adroitly gives us**

**THREE Influences  
of the Promise, or of the Promised Spirit**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





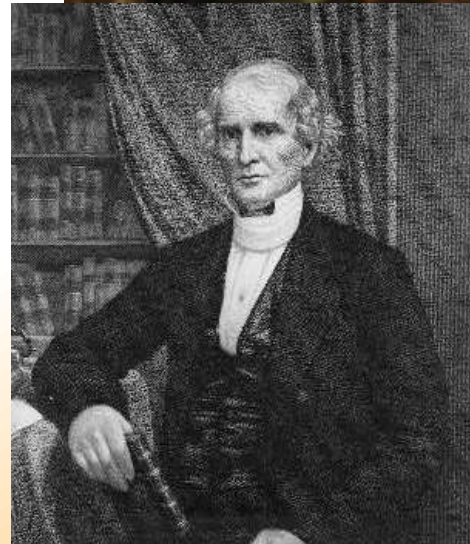
**BLESSING ... through Christ Jesus,  
by FAITH ... to receive the  
Promise of the Spirit.**

**Presbyterian Albert Barnes (1798–1870)**

Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia (1830–1868)  
Famous for his 14 vol. commentary on O.T. & N.T.

**Barnes' Three Influences of the Promised Spirit**

- 1. INFLUENCES** in renewing the heart,  
in sanctifying the soul, and  
in comforting the people of God....
- 2. INFLUENCES** obtained in sufferings/death of Christ
- 3. INFLUENCES** were the **SUM** of **ALL** the blessings  
promised by the prophets



## *Cursed or Live by Faith*

Important to note we do NOT LIVE by

- ✓ Avoiding the Curse
- ✓ Being Afraid of Condemnation

Paul is talking to the **SAVED** ...

Paul is talking to those who **BELIEVED** ...

Today, I am talking to the **Saved Who Believe!**

**BELIEVERS** are *NOT* among the **CURSED**

Yet ... beware those sneaky Devils that

**Claw Their Way into Deceive  
Sometimes as Angels of Light**

**Devils Deny  
the Curse**





**3:10-14 Curse Demands It – Righteous Live by Faith**

**Gospel – Good Message – Good News is**

**14 He REDEEMED us in order that the  
BLESSING given to Abraham might come  
to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus,  
so that by FAITH we might receive the  
Promise of the Spirit.**

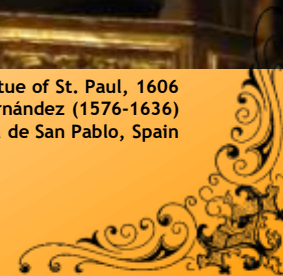
**Through Jesus Christ**

**We LIVE by**

**FAITH in God**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





**Close with a quote from Charles Spurgeon**  
From the introduction to his message on Gal. 3:13\*

**The law was intended, by its terrors,  
to CRUSH every hope of self-righteousness,  
and, by its lightnings, to scathe & demolish  
EVERY TOWER of our own works,  
that we might be brought humbly  
to accept a finished salvation through  
the ONE ALMIGHTY MEDIATOR who has  
magnified the law, and made it honorable,  
and brought in an EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS**



Charles H. Spurgeon  
by Alexander Melville (1834-1892)

\* "The Cursed Removed," June 15, 1911 (#3254), all caps mine.





Wherein we stand complete in Christ  
if indeed we are in him by a **LIVING FAITH.**

So you perceive that all that the law doth  
is to curse, it **CANNOT** bless.

In all the pages of revelation,  
you will find **NO** blessings that the law  
ever gave to one who had **OFFENDED** it.

How exquisitely Spurgeon illustrates ...  
**LAW—NEVER *BLESSED* an Offender!**


What an original thought ... ***GLORY!***

\* "The Cursed Removed," June 15, 1911 (#3254), all caps mine.



Charles H. Spurgeon  
by Alexander Melville (1834-1892)





Then as exquisitely ... Spurgeon *introducing*  
*and our closing ...*

There were blessings, for those  
who kept Law completely,  
though **NONE** ever did,  
but **NO** blessing is  
**EVER** written for **ONE** offender.

**BLESSINGS** we find in the **GOSPEL**  
**CURSES** we find in the **LAW**.



Charles H. Spurgeon  
by Alexander Melville (1834-1892)

