



# OIL AND WATER

## Studies in Galatians

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*Growing in Spirit & Truth*

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### Bewitched! Galatians 3-4

#### The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- Worship—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- Fellowship—You were formed for God’s family
- Discipleship—You were created to become like Christ
- Ministry—You were shaped for serving God
- Evangelism—You were made for God’s mission

From 1964-1972 *Bewitched* became one of the top 50 sitcoms of all time. It depicted a witch who, as a suburban housewife, tried to fit in with mere mortals. However, she could use her “powers” to bewitch others at times. In this week’s study Paul confronts the Galatians who had also been “bewitched” by the Jewish legalists; they wanted to add the Jewish law to faith in Christ to be right with God. Paul told them first to recognize faith’s effectiveness. They had seen Christ crucified by those keeping the law and should have known that it was only by faith that they had received the Spirit of God. Also, it was He, and not the Law, that enabled them to work miracles in God’s name. The faith basis had begun with Abraham’s covenant with God. All of its

promises were given to Abraham’s seed, Christ, and only those who believed in God’s promises made to Him could be right with God—in Him. Those who tried to obtain the promises through the Law would fail miserably and be cursed since they couldn’t keep it. However, since Christ became a curse for us those who believe in Him have the curse lifted from them and receive the promise of the Spirit. Next, Paul wanted them to realize the Law’s purpose. Basically, it couldn’t nullify the irrevocable covenant with Abraham since it came 430 years later. Rather, it was given to prepare everyone for Christ’s liberation by faith. The Law, by showing the impossibility of being perfect, captured everyone for a better way, the way of faith. It was like a tutor that led his



**Anything of true value is worth waiting for.**

pupils to follow faith as the way that worked. Once people believe they become sons of God instead of slaves to the Law, trying to work their way to heaven. Thus, Paul concluded by telling them to refuse the Law approach. We must not go back under the Law, but rather allow Christ to be formed in us. Those who try the Law approach are like Hagar, Sarah’s servant, who represented trying to be right with God by works from human energy. The faith approach compares to Sarah who was given a son by promise. Faith receives the promise and lets God do the work. True believers must not be bewitched into doing the Law again to be right with God.

### Study Questions for Galatians 3-4

(For answers go to <http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study questions>)

<p>1. Read Gal 3:1-5. What was Paul really asking and why in verse 1? What are the 2 ways to try to be right with God (v1-2) and to which one had the Galatians returned (v3)? What 3 things made this foolish (v2-3, 4, 5)?</p>	
<p>2. Using 3:6-9 who exemplified faith as the true way to be right before God (v6, 9) and who are his “sons” (v7)? When were Gentiles included in this (v8—see Gen 12:1-3) and what difference does this make (v9)?</p>	
<p>3. From 3:10-14 what way doesn’t work (v10) and why (v10, 11-12)? How did Christ “fix” this problem (v13) and what is the result for us (v14)?</p>	

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## Galatians 3-4 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. In Gal 3:15-18 who was Abraham's covenant between (v16) and how permanent was it (v15, 17)? How does the Law affect it (v17-18)?	
5. Based on 3:19-22 why was the Law added (v19) and what was its result (v22)? What did it not do (v21)? Who gets the promise of life (v22)?	
6. From 3:23-29 what did the Law accomplish (v23-24)? What is our present condition and why (v25, 26, 27)? What is our identity now (v28-29)?	
7. Looking at 4:1-7 how are sons and slaves alike (v1-2) and what authority are we under (v3)? How did this change (v4-5) and what are the effects (v5, 6, 7)?	
8. Using 4:8-11 describe our former (v8) and new (v9) condition. What do we tend to do (v9-10) and what fear did this cause Paul (v11)?	
9. Read 4:12-16. What did Paul desire and why (v12)? How had they treated Paul at first (v13-15) and how were they treating him now (v16)?	
10. According to 4:17-20 what were the legalists trying to do (v17)? What about Paul (v18-19)? How was he feeling about their reactions (v20)?	
11. In 4:21-31 who did Hagar (v24) and Sarah (v26-27) represent? What were the characteristics of each—(v22, 23, 25, 28)? What is their ongoing relationship like (v29) and what must happen (v30-31)?	
12. Looking back at Gal 3-4 summarize why faith is the only way to be right with God (3:1-9) and what the real purpose of the Law is (3:23-4:3). What must we do with our tendency to return to the Law as a basis for life (4:21-31)?	

### Scripture to Remember

But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

**Galatians 3:22 (NASB)**

### Celebration Fellowship

*Help—Hope—Healing*

We're on the web

[www.thehospitalchurch.com](http://www.thehospitalchurch.com)

### Life Group Questions—Calling, Conviction and Carelessness (1 Sam 13)

*(Using questions from Sunday's sermon, LifeGroups meet in homes to build caring relationships with others here at Celebration and help us to grow in Christ.)*

1. Talk about the difference between a career being just a job or a calling. Which would describe your career right now? What does that feel like?
2. Why do you think the word "calling" is used to describe what God has in mind for your life? Do you know what God's general and specific callings are for your life?
3. Looking at 1 Sam 13 what about God's call of David didn't make sense? What was God's biggest concern? How does that apply to His specific call on your life?
4. If you have experienced God's confirmation of a call on your life, share that with the group. Did you also have trouble or resistance that accompanied it? What did you do with that—and what should we do with this?
5. What are some of the ways we can get careless with God's calling on our lives? How has God dealt with that in your life, and how have you experienced His grace?
6. Discuss why we often accept God's calling, but then work it out the way we think would be best.
7. Identify ways we can keep reliance on God at the center of our calling.