

Galatians 3:14-18

14. That the **BLESSING of Abraham might come on the Gentiles** in Christ Jesus, that we might **RECEIVE the PROMISE of the Spirit** through FAITH.

- **Acts 2:33** "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the _____ the _____ of the _____, He poured out this which you now see and hear."
- **Ephesians 1:13** ""In whom also you _____, after you had heard the word of truth, the _____ of your _____: in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the _____ of _____."

Definition: "That the BLESSING of Abraham might come on the Gentiles" - "Gentiles" means all the nations of the earth other than Israel. **God promised Abraham that ALL the people of the earth would be blessed through him.** This was ultimately **fulfilled in Jesus Christ**, who was a descendant of Abraham (Abraham's "Seed"), and it is through Jesus Christ and His gospel that eternal life and reconciliation with God is available to the whole world.

- **Matthew 28:19-20** "Go therefore and make _____ of all _____, baptizing them in the name of the _____ and of the _____ and of the _____, teaching them to observe _____ things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."
- **Luke 24:46-47** "Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the _____ to _____ and to _____ from the _____ the third day, and that _____ and remission (forgiveness) of _____ should be preached in His name to _____, beginning at Jerusalem.'"

Definition: "RECEIVE the PROMISE of the Spirit" - In the Old Testament, God promised to send His Holy Spirit to be with believers. Jesus also promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would be sent to them and come and live in them after His death on the cross. **That promise was finally fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon all believers in Jesus Christ.** Believers under the Old Covenant **did NOT have the Holy Spirit living in them**, they were NOT born again by the Holy Spirit, and they did NOT have God's Spirit continually with them to guide and direct them, as we do today as believers in Christ. **In the Old Testament times, the Holy Spirit would COME UPON certain people, especially the prophets**, at certain times in order to speak God's message to the people, or to write the inspired written word of God.

- **II Peter 1:20-21** "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of _____ is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but _____ men of _____ spoke as they were _____ by the _____."
- **Isaiah 32:15-17** "Until the _____ is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is counted as a forest. Then _____ will dwell in the wilderness, and _____ remain in the fruitful field. The work of righteousness will be _____, and the effect of righteousness, _____ and _____ forever."

- **Ezekiel 36:25-27** "Then I will sprinkle _____ on you, and you will be clean; I will _____ you from all your filthiness and all your idols. A new heart also will I give you, and a new _____ will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh (body), and I will give you a heart of flesh (a compassionate heart). I will put My _____ within you and _____ you to walk in My statutes (laws), and you will _____ My judgments and _____ them."
- **John 7:37-39** ".....Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and _____. He who _____ in _____, as the _____ has said, out of his _____ will flow rivers of _____." But this He spoke concerning the _____, whom those _____ in _____ would _____; for the _____ was _____ yet _____, because Jesus was not yet glorified."
- **Isaiah 44:3** "For I will pour _____ on him that is _____, and floods upon the dry ground; I will pour out My _____ on your offspring, and My blessing upon your descendants."
- **John 14:16-17** "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide (live) with you _____, even the _____ of truth (Holy Spirit), whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees _____ nor knows _____; but you know Him, for He dwells with you, and will be _____."

Definition: "JESUS was not yet GLORIFIED" - Jesus was speaking about His death and resurrection, which at this point, was yet in the future. **On the Day of Pentecost**, AFTER Jesus was "glorified" by His resurrection and ascension to heaven, the Holy Spirit was GIVEN and continues to be given to ALL WHO BELIEVE in Him (II Cor. 1:22 & II Cor. 5:5).

- **Romans 8:9** "But you are not in the flesh but in the _____, if indeed the _____ of God _____ in you. Now if anyone does _____ have the _____ of Christ, he is _____ His."

Definition: "HE IS NOT HIS" - Every Christian has the Holy Spirit living (dwelling) inside of him. **You CANNOT BE a Christian, you CANNOT BE SAVED, and NOT have the Holy Spirit IN YOU.** Unfortunately, there are many Christians who are not allowing the Holy Spirit to control and direct their lives, but that doesn't mean He is not still dwelling in them. It just means **they are "grieving" the Holy Spirit** who is living in them.

- **Ephesians 4:30** "And do not _____ the _____ of God, by whom you were _____ for the day of redemption."
- **II Corinthians 13:14** "The _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the _____ of God, and the _____ of the _____ be with you all. Amen" **Definitions: "GRIEVE the HOLY SPIRIT" and "COMMUNION of the HOLY SPIRIT"** - The Holy Spirit is a PERSON. When we SIN, it GRIEVES Him (makes Him sad) and BREAKS the FELLOWSHIP (communion) that we have with Him as our Helper and Comforter. To RESTORE that broken fellowship with God, repent and confess your sin according to
- **I John 1:9** "If we _____ our _____, He is _____ and just to _____ us our sins, and to _____ us from _____ unrighteousness."

15-16. Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is **only a MAN'S COVENANT, yet if it is CONFIRMED**, no one annuls or adds to it. Now **to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made.** He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And **to your Seed,**" who is Christ.

- **Hebrews 6:16** "For _____ indeed swear by the greater, and an _____ for _____ is for them an _____ of all _____."
- **Luke 1:55** "As He spoke to our _____, to _____ and to his _____ forever."
- **Romans 4:13** "For the _____ that he would be the heir of the world was _____ to _____ or to his _____ through the _____, but through the _____ of _____."
- **Acts 3:25** "You are sons of the prophets, and of the _____ which _____ made with our fathers, saying to _____, 'And in your _____ all the _____ of the _____ shall be _____.'"
- **Genesis 15:5-6** "Then He (God) brought him (Abraham) outside and said, 'Look now toward _____, and count the _____ if you are able to number them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your _____ be.' And he (Abraham) _____ in the Lord, and He (God) _____ it to him for _____."
- **Genesis 12:1-3** "Now the _____ had said to Abram, 'Get out of your country, from your kindred and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great _____; I will _____ you and make your name great; and you shall be a _____. I will _____ those who _____ you, and I will _____ those who _____ you; and in you _____ the _____ of the earth shall be _____.'"

Definition: "Only a MAN'S COVENANT, yet if it is CONFIRMED" - The promise to Abraham, also known as the Abrahamic Covenant, was given to him by Almighty God Himself, and **could not be annulled or changed by the law given to Moses**. Paul uses the argument here that even covenants, wills and agreements between men cannot be changed once they are confirmed, so how much more a covenant or agreement between God and Abraham and his descendants?

- **Genesis 17:4-8** "As for Me, behold My _____ is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be _____; for I have made you a _____ of many _____. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and _____ shall come from you. And I will establish My _____ between Me and you and your _____ after you in their generations, for an everlasting _____, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also, I give to you and your descendants after you the _____ in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

Definition: "And to your SEED, who is CHRIST" - The promise of making Abraham the father of many nations, and giving him the "Promised Land" was to him and his descendants, the people of Israel. However, the promise of BEING a BLESSING to ALL the people and nations of the whole earth was to Abraham's one descendant or "SEED" which is Jesus Christ.

- **Matthew 1:1** "The book of the genealogy of _____, the Son of David, the _____ of _____."

17. And this I say, that **the LAW, which was FOUR HUNDRED and THIRTY YEARS LATER**, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.

- **Exodus 12:40** "Now the sojourn of the _____ of _____ was _____ and _____ years."
- **Genesis 46:2-4** "Then _____ spoke to _____ in the visions of the night, and said, 'Jacob, Jacob!' And he said, 'Here I am.' And He said, 'I am God, the _____ of your _____; do not fear to go down to Egypt, for I will _____ of you a _____ nation there.'"

Definition: "SOJOURN of the CHILDREN of ISRAEL" - A sojourn means living somewhere temporarily, to stay for a while, a visit. The children of Israel ended up staying in Egypt for four hundred years.

- **Acts 7:6** "But God spoke in this way: that his (Abraham's) _____ would _____ in a foreign _____, and that they would bring them into bondage and oppress them _____ years."

Definition: "The LAW, which was FOUR HUNDRED and THIRTY YEARS LATER"
 - The law was given **to Moses and the Israelites FOR a LIMITED TIME**, and was never meant to take the place of the promise made to Abraham. The law was given to Moses by God, and God wrote on the tablets of stone, but **it was a terrifying experience**, and one with terrible consequences of disobeying the law, or even touching the mountain where Moses had gone up. The penalty of disobeying God's laws was death, in many cases, and to disobey was to bring a curse upon oneself, ones family, and even the whole nation of Israel. **The four hundred and thirty years** was the time between when the children of Israel first went into Egypt, and when Moses brought them out of Egypt, and then **gave them the law upon Mount Sinai. God RECONFIRMED the PROMISE He made to Abraham** by repeating it to Jacob (Israel) just before his family went to live in Egypt.

- **Hebrews 12:18-24** "For you have _____ come to the _____ that may be touched and that burned with _____, and to _____ and darkness and _____, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it _____ that the _____ should _____ be spoken to them anymore. (For they could _____ what was _____: 'And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or thrust through with an arrow.' And so _____ was the sight that Moses said, 'I am exceedingly _____ and _____'.') But _____ have come to Mount Zion and to the _____ of the _____, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and _____ of the firstborn who are registered in _____, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to _____ the _____ of the _____, and to the _____ of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel."

18. For **IF the INHERITANCE is of the LAW, it is NO LONGER of PROMISE**; but God gave it to Abraham by promise.

- **Romans 11:6** "And if by _____, then it is no longer of _____; otherwise _____ is no longer grace. But if it is of _____, it is no longer _____; otherwise work is no longer work."

Definition: "IF the INHERITANCE is of the LAW, it is NO LONGER of PROMISE"
 - This is the same as in Romans 11:6, "If it is of works, it is no longer grace." **GRACE** means unmerited or UNEARNED favor - **being accepted and loved by God when we have done NOTHING and CAN DO NOTHING to EARN or DESERVE it. An inheritance is also something that is NOT earned**, it is just given

to someone. The promise that God made to Abraham and his descendants was simply by GRACE and a GIFT of God. **God said He would bless Abraham** and his descendants, and it was not because Abraham kept any rules or regulations.

- **Ephesians 2:8-9** "For by _____ you have been saved through _____, and that not of yourselves, it is the _____ of God; _____ of works, lest anyone should boast."