

**Intro:** Philosophy has a number of what are called "Perennial Questions: All people/Times/Cultures: No answers!

- What is the meaning of life?
- Where did we come from?
- Where are we going?
- *How can we be "right in God's sight"*

As we continue our study in Galatians, talk today about Freedom: Specifically: "Free To Be Right In God's Sight"  
"Free To Be Right In God's Sight" Galatians 3:6-29

From the first verses of Gal Paul has been writing to encourage the Galatian churches to not surrender the Freedom Jesus gives us in relationship with Him for the bondage and slavery of the Law. Remember what is going on. Paul visited, preached the gospel, people responded, churches were formed, Paul left, Judiazers came: KEEP THE LAW! Over and over again Paul has written: NO...Freedom comes from faith in Christ, not from keeping the Law!

In this part of Galatians Paul addresses this issue in 3 ways: With an Example, With Exclusion, With Encouragement

**1. Example: Abraham Shows Us That Freedom Comes Through Faith, Not The Law.** Vs 6-9

For the Jews, Abraham is the keystone. God's promise to Abraham: A Land (Caanan) Seed (Children) Blessing (Jesus) Was the foundation of everything they were and believed. The Jewish nation, the Jewish culture, the Jewish faith was built on Abraham. Abraham precedes Moses...Ultimate Father of Nation

So when Paul references Abraham, there is no higher authority! And Paul does so and says...Abraham was justified before God...NOT by the Law, But by Faith! The Law didn't even EXIST with Abraham...He was righteous by faith!

- Look at What He Did: Vs 6  
>Believed God: *He put his faith and trust in what God told Him, Abraham, Everything around you tells you...you and Sara will NEVER have children...No offspring...TRUST ME! Abraham did*  
>Credited as Righteousness: Lit = It was "accounted to him" Bookkeeping term! Abrahams faith was credited to His "account with God" as righteousness!  
Ex: Extrabiblical literature: Reconciling books with wineseller: *"Put that amount as credit on my account!"*  
Ex: Abraham BELIEVED GOD...and it was put on his account as RIGHTEOUSNESS
- Do what Abraham did!: Vs 9 You have faith too!

How can we be Free in God's Sight? By being like Abraham, trusting by faith in God! Same thing He said in Ephesians Eph 2:8-9 *"For by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. And, not by works, so that no one can boast!"*

*Abraham was the example for the Galatians....Abraham was the example for Jews...Abraham is the example for us!*

**2. Exclusion: The Law Never Made Anyone Right In God's Sight!** Vs 10-15

Specifically here Paul is talking about the OT Jewish Law. He says: Law never made anyone right in God's sight!  
Then...what DID the Law do? Paul gives us 3 things:

- Vs 10: Law Cursed all mankind: Unless you keep it ALL...you are under a curse, under judgment
- Vs 19: Law was a "placekeeper" until the Messiah came! Not make you right...covered sin:  
Heb 10:1-4
- Vs 24: Law was a "schoolteacher", intended to lead us to Christ.  
As we try to keep the Law we realize: We Cannot! Helps us understand and see our need.  
The harder we try..the more we realize...I cannot keep the Law...I am guilty...I need Help!

Generally, ALL Law Keeping Systems Do Exactly the same thing...Show us that we can never be right!

- Law of Other Religions: (Different "Acts of Righteousness" but still Law! And never kept...Never good enough  
Bible is full of other "religious systems" Babylonians, Assyrians, etc
- Law of World: Contemporary Culture: Greeks and Romans perfect examples: Hundreds of Gods...Never Right
- Law of Self: I define for myself what is right and wrong...what is acceptable: Judges: Every man did what was right in their own eyes! Go and look ...READ it!...Read Romans, Greeks, Babylonians, read other religions: Buddhism, Confucianism, Meditate: Universe nothing to say!

Here is what you will discover...Every one of those alternatives want to live in a world that has the values of the bible...where people are significant...life is meaningful and has a purpose...but not be answerable to God of Bible!

### **3. Encouragement: You CAN BE Right In God's Sight!**

**3:26-4:7**

Paul even goes further...Not only can you be RIGHT...You can be a Child of God! How is THAT for encouragement!

- Vs 26: You are sons and daughters through faith: If you, like Abraham, believe God...Trust Him and His direction. If you put your faith in Christ Jesus...you are His Child!
- Vs 28-29 That opportunity is open to EVERYONE! God is no respecter of persons. Despite what the Judiazers are saying, there is no Jew and Gentile, despite what the Jewish faith says, there is no male and female, despite what the Greeks and Romans say, there are no first and second class citizens, no slave and free...there are just PEOPLE! Sinners in need of a Savior. Lost people that need to put their faith in God through Son Jesus
- 4:4: God sent His Son: God did for us what we could not do for ourselves. We would never be able to do anything to make ourself Right in His Sight...So He did it for us! He acted...when we couldn't
- 4:5: God redeemed: To buy out of the slave market of sin...in order to be set FREE!
  - >We were sold by sin into slavery
  - >Nothing we could do to free ourselves
  - >God sent His Son...to pay the price for our sin: "The wages of sin is death" He died so we can live
  - >What we have to do...is what Abraham did...take God at His word:  
God said, everyone that looks to the Cross of Jesus Christ, puts their confidence in what He did there, the Just dying for the unjust, when we believe God, that faith...credited to us as righteousness
- 4:5 God gives us full rights as sons and daughters! Every right Jesus had...you have! Right to come into the presence of the Holy God...the right to ask for mercy...find grace...The right to call Him Father! He no longer calls us servants...He now calls us friends...sons and daughters
- 4:6 We can call Him Father. JUST like Jesus did standing at the tomb of Lazarus WE TOO CAN PRAY We too can say, Father, I KNOW that you always hear me! And pray, asking for the IMPOSSIBLE! John 11:41-44 (READ IT!)

Concl: That kind of confidence, that kind of relationship, that kind of boldness...Doesn't come from the Law...Legal standing before God because you crossed MOST of your T's and dotted many of the I's! That comes from LOVE .... That comes from Relationship...That Comes from Faith that is expressed...fulfilled...and Honored by the God that NEVER holds back the best from His children.

When you are "Right In His Sight" and you know it...there is Freedom!

- Freedom to go boldly into His presence
- Freedom to ask whatsoever you will...and KNOW He hears you!
- Freedom to live life in the fullness of His Spirit because you are His child
- Freedom to not be afraid of what tomorrow brings...because you know He is with you
- Freedom to take on whatever He allows to come your way...knowing it comes from hand of loving Father

Here is the burning question today: Do you have THAT kind of relationship? Are you Right In His Sight...?

Have you followed the example of Abraham...taken God at His word...Put your faith in what Jesus did...Become Son? If you have NEVER done that...if you think there is another way...been trying in own strength..never be enough. You need to do what Abraham did...What Paul did...what millions others have done since...BELIEVE GOD

Or...maybe like the Galatians...you believed God to start...now trying to finish in the flesh what you started in the Spirit? You can't do it. The more your try, the harder you push, the more effort you expend...the more you will discover...By the works of the Law...no one justified.

You come:

To put your faith in Him for the very first time: To BELIEVE, that if you look to cross, Jesus death and resurrection...you will be made right in His sight  
To ask Him to help you live in faith...instead of in your works through your efforts.