

Study Guide for December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2001. *Sola Fide* #10 Galatians 3:15-18 The Promised Seed.

1. Have you ever been a beneficiary from someone's will? What did you inherit? How would you have reacted if someone tried to change the will and keep you from receiving what had been left for you?

2. A Human Illustration: Galatians 3:15

A. Read Gal. 3:15 then complete the following statement, "If a human will (covenant) cannot be changed after the person who wrote dies, then the will (covenant) God makes . . .

B. A similar argument is used in the letter to the Hebrews. What conclusions can you draw about the character of God from the following passages?

1) Heb. 6:13-18:

2) Heb. 9:15-18:

3. The Recipient of the Divine Promise: Galatians 3:16

A. What was the **promise** spoken to Abraham and his **seed**? Record what is revealed at . . .

1) Gen. 12:7

2) Gen. 13:15-16

3) Gen. 22:17-18

B. What importance does Paul attribute to the fact that the **seed** is singular and not plural?

C. Walter Kaiser writes, "The word, **seed**, is regularly used as a collective noun in the singular. This technical term is an important aspect of the promise doctrine, for Hebrew never uses the plural of this word to refer to posterity or offspring. . . Thus the word designates the whole line of descendants as a unit, yet it is deliberately flexible enough to denote either one person who epitomizes the whole group, or the many persons in that whole line of natural and/or spiritual descendants." (TWOT pg. 253)

D. What can you learn about the **seed** (offspring) from the following passages?

1) Gen. 3:15:

2) Acts 13:23:

3) Gal. 3:20:

4) Gal. 3:29:

5) Rom. 4:16:

6) Rev. 12:17:

4. The Law - Much Later: Galatians 3:17

Paul's point in this verse is that since the law was given \_\_\_\_\_ it cannot set aside or do away with the promise which was \_\_\_\_\_ established. Why do you think Paul needs to emphasize this?

5. The Inheritance: Galatians 3:18

Complete the sentence, "...the inheritance depends (**not**) on the \_\_\_\_\_, but God in his \_\_\_\_\_, gave it to Abraham through a \_\_\_\_\_." What impact should this truth have on you?