

Study Guide for December 10th, 2001. *Sola Fide* #11 Galatians 3:19-25 The Purpose of the Law

1. Recall a time when you were in a highly regulated place. Why were there so many rules? How did it feel when you were free from all the regulations? Looking back, what did you learn from that time?

2. The LAW is like a MIRROR reflecting back to me the reality of my sin. Galatians 3:19-20

A. Answer the following questions in light of what Paul wrote in vs. 19-20

- 1) Paul writes that the law was added “because of transgressions.” What does that mean?
- 2) What time limitation does Paul specify for the law?
- 3) How was the law given? How does this compare with the promise given to Abraham?

B. Fill in the blanks of the following complementary verses regarding the purpose of the LAW.

- 1) Rom. 3:19-20: “Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be _____ and the whole world held _____ to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his (God’s) sight by _____ the law; rather, through the law we become _____ of sin.”
- 2) Rom. 4:14-15: “For if those who live by the law are _____, faith has no _____ and the _____ is worthless, because law brings _____. And where there is no law there is no _____.”
- 3) Rom. 5:20: “The law was added so that the _____ might _____.”

3. The LAW is like a PRISON GUARD locking me in as a prisoner to sin. Galatians 3:21-22

Read vs. 21-22 then evaluate the following statements by circling **T** (true) or **F** (false) after each.

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| A. The LAW is opposed to the promises of God. | T | F |
| B. If a person could keep the LAW, he would find life. | T | F |
| C. The LAW will make people better. | T | F |
| D. The LAW drives people to seek grace through faith in Christ. | T | F |

4. The LAW is like a TUTOR preparing me for the grace given through Christ. Galatians 3:23-25

- A. In vs. 24 Paul uses the metaphor of a **pedagogue** to describe the law. (NIV translates this phrase with the words, “the law **was put in charge**...”). The Greek **pedagogue** was often a slave whose duty it was to superintend a boy’s general conduct. He was often harsh to the point of cruelty and is depicted in drawings with a rod or cane in hand. He rebukes and punishes every misdeed.
- B. How does this image help you understand the purpose of the LAW?
- C. Why, according to vs. 25, are we no longer under the supervision of the LAW?