

The Book of Galatians

- I. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: THE FOUNDATION (GALATIANS 1:1-5).
- II. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: THE ABERRATION (1:6-9).
- III. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: A REVELATION (1:10--2:10).
 - A. The uniqueness of this revelation (1:11-12, 17-19).
 - B. The need for this revelation (1:13-14).
 - C. The purpose of this revelation (1:15-16).
 - D. The recognition of this revelation (2:1-2, 9).
 - E. The recipients of this revelation--the Gentiles (2:7-8).
 - F. The enemies of this revelation--false brethren (2:3-5).
- IV. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: A CONFRONTATION (2:11-14).
- V. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: THE CLARIFICATION (2:15-19).
- VI. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: THE TRANSFORMATION (2:20-21).
- VII. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: AN ARGUMENTATION (3:1--4:20).

In chapters 3 and 4 Paul offers a series of arguments which prove the sufficiency of justification by faith alone.

 - A. The argument from their own experience (3:1-5; 4:12-20).
 - 1. He reminds them how they first received the message of justification (3:1-5).
 - 2. He reminds them how they first received the messenger of justification (4:12-20).
 - B. The argument from the life of Abraham (3:6-9).
 - C. The argument from the law (3:10--4:11).
 - 1. The law and sinners (3:10-12).
 - 2. The law and the promise (3:15-26).
 - a. The law cannot change the promise (3:15-18).
 - b. The law is inferior to the promise (3:19-20). His argument here is that God used a mediator (angels) in giving the law, but gave the promise of faith personally to Abraham.
 - c. The law is not contrary to the promise (3:21-26).
 - 3. The law and Israel.
 - a. It was given to Israel 430 years after the promise (3:17).
 - b. It was an insertion, given because of sin (3:19).
 - c. It was ordained by angels (3:19). (See Jn 1:17.)
 - d. It thus acted as a divine custodian (3:23-24).
 - 4. The law and Christ.
 - a. He has redeemed us from its curse (3:13).
 - b. He did this at God's appointed time through a human body (4:4-5).
 - c. He thus guaranteed our full adoption as sons of God (4:1-7).
 - 5. The law and believers (3:25-29).
 - 6. The law and the Galatians (4:8-11).
- VIII. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: AN ALLEGORIZATION (4:21-31).

In these verses Paul uses Hagar and Sarah--two Old Testament women, to allegorize the Law of Moses and the grace of God.

 - A. Hagar (an allegory of the law).
 - 1. She was a bondwoman.
 - 2. Her marriage to Abraham was fleshly directed.
 - 3. Her son Ishmael was naturally born.
 - 4. This son persecuted Abraham's second son, Isaac.
 - 5. Her child was not considered Abraham's rightful heir.
 - 6. Hagar represented the Mt. Sinai covenant as she bore a slave child (Israel would also be slaves for awhile).
 - 7. She corresponded to earthly Jerusalem (in Paul's day) due to her slavery. (Jerusalem was occupied by the Romans at that time.)
 - B. Sarah (an allegory of grace).
 - 1. She was a freewoman.
 - 2. Her marriage to Abraham was Spirit directed.
 - 3. Her son Isaac was supernaturally born.
 - 4. This son was persecuted by Ishmael.
 - 5. Her child was considered Abraham's rightful heir.

6. Sarah represented the new covenant, as she bore a free son.
7. She corresponded to heavenly Jerusalem.

IX. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH: THE APPLICATION (5:1--6:18).

- A. Assuring us the freedom of the Son (5:1-15).
 1. Keeping us from the legalism of the Jews (5:1-12).
 2. Keeping us from the license of the Libertines (5:13).
 3. Keeping us in the love of the Lord (5:14). (See 1 Jn. 4:7-8.)
- B. Assuring us the fruit of the Spirit (5:15-23).
 1. As demonstrated by our fruitbearing (5:16-26).
 - a. Negative: the fruit of the flesh (5:19-21).
 - b. Positive: the fruit of the Spirit (5:22-23).
 2. As demonstrated by our burden bearing (6:1-6).
 3. As demonstrated by our seed-bearing (6:7-10).
 4. As demonstrated by our brand-bearing (6:14-17).