

The Galatians Agenda: The Truth About Paul's Epistle – Part 3

It is vitally important for believers to study the Greek texts because the New Testament Greek verifies the Old Testament Hebrew. This is not what Christians are taught, however. We can only know what YHVH said and what He meant when He said it if we are willing to dig deeper.

Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

If we believe we are to rule and reign with Him (1 Corinthians 6:2-3, 2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 3:21, 5:10, 20:6), then we, as Kings-in-the-making, must seek the understanding of our Heavenly Father and see things from His perspective alone so that we care only about His and the Kingdom's interests, not our own.

To this end, there are some more Greek words we must understand to make sense of what Paul said. One of these is the Greek word 'pistis' with its grammatical variations which have meanings that vary in execution. Just as there are English words which can be used as both a noun and a verb, so it is also true of Greek words.

As always, Paul's Epistles are dense and full of information. He wastes no parchment on idle words. Thus, this teaching will be full but I will try to go slow so you can take notes. As always, it will be posted this week, God willing.

Before we read Galatians 3, remember I will translate the blue highlighted *the law* ^{G3551} as *Judaism* and the green highlighted *the* ^{G3588} *law* ^{G3551} as *the Torah*. I will do this to make it clear which "law" Paul speaks of but also so you can see that I will not be mistranslating the text. And if you are new to this teaching, please return to parts 1 and 2 to find out why *the law* ^{G3551} in blue is *Judaism* and *the* ^{G3588} *law* ^{G3551} in green is *the Torah*.

And I will be introducing and highlighting new words this week. You will be able to see everything.

CHAPTER 3

KJV+	WEB
1 O ^{G5599} foolish ^{G453} Galatians, ^{G1052} who ^{G5101} hath ^{G940} bewitched you, ^{G5209} that ye should not ^{G3361} obey ^{G3982} the ^{G3588} truth, ^{G225} before ^{G2596} whose ^{G3739} eyes ^{G3788} Jesus ^{G2424} Christ ^{G5547} hath been evidently set forth, ^{G4270} crucified ^{G4717} among ^{G1722} you? ^{G5213}	1 O foolish Galatians, who has ^{G3588} bewitched you not to obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was openly portrayed among you as crucified?

This word, “bewitched”, (‘baskainō’, Strong’s G940), is a verb meaning both “to malign” and “to cast a spell over” as in the practice of witchcraft! Paul did not treat the Galatians’ apostasy lightly!

2 This G5124 only G3440 would G2309 I learn G3129 of G575 you, G5216 Received G2983 ye the G3588 Spirit G4151 by G1537 the works G2041 of the law, G3551 or G2228 by G1537 the hearing G189 of faith? G4102

2 I just want to learn this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of Judaism, or by hearing of faith?

Paul now draws a contrast between the Holy Spirit and Judaism. If God’s giving of the Holy Spirit came by keeping Judaism, then the Jews would already have received the Holy Spirit. But the Jews did not know YHVH and had not received His Holy Spirit.

Let’s talk about that other word – faith – and what it means. “Faith” is Strong’s G4102, ‘pistis’. It is the noun grammar form of this Greek word that has 4 grammarian forms. Galatians chapter 3 uses 3 of those forms: the noun or conceptual idea of faith (‘pistis’) which we can call the “doctrine of faith”. Then there is the verb form (pisteuo) of faith which is the action that demonstrates the noun, the doctrine we believe in, and the adjective form, ‘pistos’ which reveals the manner in which our faith is kept. All of these will be studied today.

3 Are G2075 ye so G3779 foolish? G453 having begun G1728 in the Spirit, G4151 are ye now G3568 made perfect G2005 by the flesh? G4561

3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now completed in the flesh?

Paul has drawn a contrast between the Holy Spirit and Judaism and is now contrasting the Holy Spirit against the flesh. Taking the 2 contrasts together, we can see that Judaism is of the flesh. Religion is of the flesh. Conversely then, the Holy Spirit is of the Torah of YHVH.

4 Have ye suffered G3958 so many things G5118 in vain? G1500 if G1489 it be yet G2532 in vain. G1500

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain, if it is indeed in vain?

5 He therefore that ministereth G2023 G3767 to you G5213 the G3588 Spirit, G4151 and G2532 worketh G1754 miracles G1411 among G1722

5 He therefore who supplies the Spirit to you, and does miracles among you, does he do it by the works of Judaism, or by hearing of faith?

you, ^{G5213} doeth he it by ^{G1537} the works ^{G2041} of the law, ^{G3551}
or ^{G2228} by ^{G1537} the ^{G189} hearing of faith? ^{G4102}

The word “^{G189} hearing” is the Greek word, ‘akouō’ (Strong’s ^{G189}). In Hebrew, it is ‘shema’ – “listen”, which means “hear and obey”. And the faith mentioned here is still ‘pistis’, the doctrinal concept. I will refer to it as the “‘pistis’ faith doctrine” from now on.

6 Even as ^{G2531} Abraham ^{G11} ^{G4100} believed God, ^{G2316}
and ^{G2532} it was accounted ^{G3049} to him ^{G846} for ^{G1519}
righteousness. ^{G1343}

6 Even as Abraham “^{G4100} believed” God, and it was counted to him for
righteousness.”

In verse 6, the Greek word, ^{G4100}, for the English “believed”, is ‘pisteuo’. This is the verb form of ^{G4102}, the ‘pistis’ faith doctrine, above. This verb form puts our ‘pistis’ faith doctrine into action. So Abraham was putting his belief into action by doing YHVH’s commandments and it was Abraham’s actions that caused YHVH to count it to him for righteousness. Abraham was not credited for thinking in his mind that he believed the doctrine. Rather it was his actions after he believed the doctrine of faith, the ‘pistis’ faith doctrine, that YHVH counted to him for righteousness.

Moses wrote this over 400 years later. He simply asserted in this specific place that Abraham had demonstrated his ‘pistis’ faith doctrine by continuing on to do ‘pisteuo active obedience’. ‘Pistis faith doctrine’ should always result in ‘pisteuo active obedience’.

Why? Because Moses wrote about Abraham later in Genesis saying:

Genesis 26:5 because Abraham obeyed my [YHVH’s] voice, and kept my [YHVH’s] requirements, my [YHVH’s] commandments, my [YHVH’s] statutes, and my [YHVH’s] laws.”

Contrary to Christian doctrine that Abraham did nothing but have an agreeable thought toward the ‘pistis faith doctrine’, Abraham actually acted on his favorable thoughts by his ‘pisteuo active obedience’. He kept YHVH’s requirements (Strong’s ^{H4929}, ‘mishmar’), commandments (Strong’s ^{H4687}, ‘mitzvah’), statutes (^{H2708}, ‘chuqqah’) and laws (Strong’s ^{H8451}, ‘Torah’). So it was his ‘pisteuo active obedience which was counted, or attributed, to him as righteousness, not his favorable agreement with the ‘pistis faith doctrine’.

Genesis 26:5 says Abraham obeyed YHVH’s voice which is the opposite of what Adam did. This is why YHVH chose Abraham’s line for the Messiah.

Let’s delve into the English word “requirements” in the WEB version. It is the word is “charge” in the KJV. The Hebrew word is ‘mishmereth’ (Strong’s ^{H4931}) which means watch, the act of taking custody and being a sentry at a post. It also means preservation, keeping something safe; figuratively by observance and duty.

‘Mishmereth’ derives from the Hebrew root word ‘mishmar’ (Strong’s ^{H4929}) which means “a guard”.

Jude 1:6 speaks of angels that did not keep their post, did not do their duty. Not only did Abraham not follow in Adam's footsteps, but he also acted opposite of those angels. He took custody of the 'pistis' faith doctrine and did what Adam had not and what the angels also had not. He guarded the promises.

Paul teaches that Abraham is our forefather whose example we are to duplicate in the next few verses. If keeping the Torah is not required of Christian believers in God, then why did Abraham keep YHVH's Law? Because keeping YHVH's Law through 'pisteuo active obedience is the evidence that he believed the 'pistis' faith doctrine.

This concept of 'pisteuo active obedience is also found in Romans.

Rom 4:11 And ^{G2532} he received ^{G2983} the sign ^{G4592} of circumcision, ^{G4061} a seal ^{G4973} of the ^{G3588} righteousness ^{G1343} of the ^{G3588} faith ^{G4102} which ^{G3588} he had yet being uncircumcised: that ^{G1722} ^{G203} he ^{G846} might be ^{G1511} the father ^{G3962} of all ^{G3956} them that believe, ^{G4100} though they be not circumcised; ^{G1223} ^{G203} that righteousness ^{G1343} might be imputed ^{G3049} unto them ^{G846} also: ^{G2532}

Romans 4:11 He [Abraham] received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the **faith ['pistis' faith doctrine]** which he had while he was in **uncircumcision** [being a Gentile], that he might be the father of all those who **believe ['pisteuo' active obedience]**, though they might be in **uncircumcision** [non-Jews not converted to Judaism], that righteousness might also be accounted to them.

Yes, Paul was teaching the same message to the Romans that he taught to the Galatians! There is for us 'pistis' faith doctrine and then there is also the required 'mishmar' 'pisteuo' active obedience to the 'mitzvah' commandments, the 'chuqqah' statutes and the 'Torah', the Law of YHVH.

Romans 4:12 He is the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of that **faith [the 'pistis' faith doctrine]** of our father Abraham, which he had in uncircumcision.

Two things: Paul was telling the Galatian Jews that they being Jews, meaning "of the circumcision", did not mean anything when it came to 'pistis' faith doctrine. Also, uncircumcision or being a Gentile, also meant nothing. These were cultural constructs. If you need more information about this, please watch the video before this one, part 2.

Secondly, Abraham walked in the STEPS of his 'pistis' faith doctrine! The 'pistis' faith doctrine, has STEPS we are to take? Yes. Who knew? Are Christians being taught these steps? No! They are being taught that "Jesus did it all for us so we don't have to"! And they are not taught that Abraham did the very steps, kept the very commandments, statutes and Law that his descendant, Yeshua, also kept and which they say Paul did away with! Do they not realize they are slandering Paul?

This is important! Yeshua did not come through a disobedient line of ancestors. They all kept the entire Law of YHVH so He could come. Why would He then, turn around, and annul, make void, the very Law containing the requirements that got Him to the earth and onto the Cross?

We are to put our 'pistis' faith doctrine into 'pisteuo' active obedience like Abraham did – hearing God's voice, keeping His charge at our duty stations, doing the 'mitzvah' (commandments of YHVH), observing His 'chuqqah' (statutes) and obeying His 'Torah', the governing Law of YHVH's Kingdom. Doing so will result in YHVH attributing that same righteousness to us.

Finally, those who practice religion are practicing witchcraft, according to Paul, who asked who it was that had bewitched them. Witchcraft is not only rebellion; it is how a person walks in Satan's Kingdom doing Satan's will instead of YHVH's!

7 Know^{G1097} ye therefore^{G686} that^{G3754} they^{G3588} which are of^{G1537} **faith, G4102** the same^{G3778} are^{G1526} the children^{G5207} of Abraham. ^{G11}

7 Know therefore that those who are of **faith [the 'pistis' faith doctrine]**, the same are children of Abraham.

This completely does away with Judaism because Judaism almost 2,000 years after Abraham. He was not the first Jew! The first Jew was Judah who himself was not called "a Jew". It was Judah's descendants who, almost 1,000 years later, we called "Jews". It was the Jews who developed Judaism, the religion of the Jews.

8 And^{G1161} the^{G3588} scripture, ^{G1124} foreseeing^{G4275} that^{G3754} God^{G2316} would justify^{G1344} the^{G3588} heathen^{G1484} through^{G1537} **faith, G4102** preached before the gospel^{G4283} unto Abraham, ^{G11} saying, In ^{G1722} thee^{G4671} shall all^{G3956} nations^{G1484} be blessed. ^{G1757}

8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by **faith [the 'pistis' faith doctrine]**, preached the Good News beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you all the nations will be blessed."

Notice that Paul did not use the Jewish colloquialism "the uncircumcision" for non-Jews here. This is because he had just explained that Abraham was a believing Gentile before his flesh was circumcised.

Where did God preach the Good News to Abraham? Genesis 15 is the prophesy of the Gospel of Yeshua coming to the earth to die for us and Genesis 22:18 is where YHVH told Abraham "in you all the nations will be blessed".

It was in Genesis 15 where the promise that Abraham would have a son from his own loins, his son would inherit the promised land and have descendants who would be atoned for when they broke the covenant was prophesied. This is the Gospel message. From his darkened trance state, Abraham was shown the entire scenario including Yeshua hanging on the cross. This last statement is not stated specifically in Genesis. Then where does this idea come from? Yeshua said:

John 8:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day. He saw it, and was glad."

What day was it that Abraham saw? The day of Yeshua's crucifixion. Abraham didn't only see an overview of Yeshua's life. He saw His death, too.

From where did Abraham see Yeshua's crucifixion? It was while he was in the terrible darkness in the trance.

So what are we to do about this?

9 So then ^{G5620} they ^{G3588} which be of ^{G1537} **faith ^{G4102}** are blessed ^{G2127} with ^{G4862} **faithful ^{G4103}** Abraham. ^{G11}

9 So then, those who are of **faith ['pistis' faith doctrine]** are blessed with the **faithful ('pistos')** Abraham [who filled "faith" with "fulness" because of his belief and his walk].

What does it mean that we are blessed with him? He is our example so we can follow what he did. He both believed God and then he walked according to the ways of God. That is what we, Abraham's children, are to do! We are to guard the 'pistis faith doctrine with our very lives and also to walk in 'pisteuo' active obedience to YHVH's Law, the Torah.

Why? So we won't be cursed by following religions or cultures.

10 For ^{G1063} as many as ^{G3745} are ^{G1526} of ^{G1537} the works ^{G2041} of the law ^{G3551} are ^{G1526} under ^{G5259} the curse: ^{G2671} for ^{G1063} it is written, ^{G1125} Cursed ^{G1944} is every one ^{G3956} that ^{G3739} continueth ^{G1696} not ^{G3756} in ^{G1722} all things ^{G3956} which are written ^{G1125} in ^{G1722} the ^{G3588} book ^{G975} of the ^{G3588} law ^{G3551} to do ^{G4160} them. ^{G846}

10 For as many as are of the works of **Judaism** [or any other religion such as we have now] are under a curse. For it is written, "Cursed is everyone who doesn't continue in all things that are written in the book of **the Torah**, to do them."

11 But ^{G1161} that ^{G3754} no man ^{G3762} is justified ^{G1344} by ^{G1722} the law ^{G3551} in the sight ^{G3844} of God, ^{G2316} it is evident: ^{G1212} for, ^{G3754} The ^{G3588} just ^{G1342} shall live ^{G2198} by ^{G1537} **faith. ^{G4102}**

11 But that no man is justified by **Judaism** before God is evident, for, "The righteous will live by **faith ['pistis' faith doctrine].**"

Now Paul will explain the role of Torah in our mortal lives and also for our entering into YHVH's Kingdom.

12 And G1161 the G3588 law G3551 is G2076 not G3756 of G1537
faith: G4102 but, G235 The G3588 man G444 that doeth G4160
them G846 shall live G2198 in G1722 them. G846

12 The Torah is not of faith ['pistis' faith doctrine], but, "The man who
does them will live by them."

People read this and think "discard the Torah" because it has nothing to do with believing in Jesus. Let's rather read this as "keep the Torah" because it brought Messiah so I can have faith ('pistis' faith doctrine) in Him". Why? Because the Law, the Torah, is all about Him!

John 5:46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote about me.

John 5:47 But if you don't believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

I can't say it better than that. If the Torah is removed, then so is Yeshua and our salvation.

YHVH's Law did not come by faith. It was not possible for it to come by faith because it always existed. It was "there" before there ever was an earth and all the things created to be in the earth, including mankind, and it will exist after this current world is passed away. Thus, the Torah does not require our faith towards it. It requires only our 'pisteuo' active obedience of it.

The Torah has a role in making us fit to live in YHVH's eternal Kingdom. When Yeshua was asked what one should do to inherit eternal life, He answered:

Matthew 19:17 ... But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

Matthew 19:18 He [the man asking] said to him [Yeshua], "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder.' 'You shall not commit adultery.' 'You shall not steal.' 'You shall not offer false testimony.'

Matthew 19:19 'Honor your father and your mother.' And, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

These few commandments are a diminutive reference to the entire Law of YHVH! That is what Paul was saying: "by them you will have life on earth and eternal life in the Kingdom". You will live by them, the commandments.

This is what Christians do not want to hear. They have been taught, and most prefer, that they have no role, no reciprocation toward God, in their salvation to enter into the Kingdom. Not so.

13 Christ G5547 hath redeemed G1805 us G2248 from G1537
the G3588 curse G2671 of the G3588 law, G3551 being made G1096 a
curse G2671 for G5228 us: G2257 for G1063 it is written, G1125
Cursed G1944 is every one G3956 that hangeth G2910 on G1909 a
tree: G3586

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Torah, having become a
curse for us. For it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a
tree,"

This is one of the worst interpreted scriptures in all the Bible! The Law of YHVH, the Torah, is not itself a curse! But there is a curse within the Torah which we know is death. This comes from the time of Adam which was thousands of years before the Law of YHVH was formalized in His nation, Israel. Thus, death is the curse, not YHVH's Law! Death is what happened to the first Adam. The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

14 That G2443 the G3588 blessing G2129 of Abraham G11 might come G1096 on G1519 the G3588 Gentiles G1484 through G1722 Jesus G2424 Christ; G5547 that G2443 we might receive G2983 the G3588 promise G1860 of the G3588 Spirit G4151 through G1223 faith. G4102

14 that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Christ Jesus; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith ['pistis' faith doctrine].

The biggest and most important blessing to Abraham was the promise that YHVH would give His people His Holy Spirit. Paul called it, in verse 14, "the promise of the Spirit through 'pistis' faith doctrine. Have you been taught that Abraham's promises included the giving of the Holy Spirit? Have you been taught that Abraham 'pisteuo'd' (obeyed) YHVH because he had been given YHVH's Holy Spirit? Of course Abraham had YHVH's Holy Spirit within. He is the father of our 'pistis' faith doctrine and we are to be like him. Therefore, he walked according to YHVH's Spirit within him just like we are to do.

The blessing of Abraham was not only for the Jews, as they claimed when they were proselytizing the Gentiles coming into the synagogues through their new-found faith in Yeshua. The blessing of Abraham, the giving of Yeshua's Holy Spirit, is for everyone and for the purpose of receiving the the 'pistis' faith doctrine. We do not receive the Holy Spirit because we have kept the Torah. We receive the Holy Spirit because we believe Yeshua is the Promised Son through the 'pistis' faith doctrine.

But that is not the end of the story because once we believe, once we understand the concepts and doctrines of the Gospel, we must now live them out day by day.

Let me make an analogy that Paul did not have. Let's talk about driving a car. 'Pistis' faith doctrine is your belief that the car will move when you start it. 'Pisteuo' active obedience is when you have put the car in gear and are driving down the road. But there are rules to the road that if you obey them you will be safe and reach your destination but ignoring the rules can get you into trouble. Ignoring them can get you killed which is the curse of the road.

We receive the Spirit for the purpose of having the ability to do what ancient Israel refused to do which was to walk as Abraham walked.

Ezekiel 36:27 is where YHVH told Ezekiel He would "put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes. You will keep my ordinances and do them".

The purpose of the Holy Spirit within us is to give us our 'pistis' faith doctrine and to empower us to walk in 'pisteuo' active obedience. The Israelite nation backed away from receiving the Holy Spirit at Mount Sinai. The fire and light show at Mount Sinai was the preparation for YHVH's Holy Spirit to begin dwelling in their hearts just as happened in Acts 2 with that fire and light show.

There were a few among those at Mount Sinai who received YHVH's Spirit. He always has a remnant but He is not looking for a remnant within a wicked nation. He is looking for His "Plan A" which is to have a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Exodus 19:6). Therefore, walk as Abraham walked in 'pistis' faith doctrine and 'pisteuo' active obedience.

Might I add that if we say we believe the Gospel but we don't walk like Abraham that we don't actually believe the Gospel? If 'pistis' faith doctrine does not lead to 'pisteuo' active obedience then our 'pistis' faith doctrine is not really real, is it? The law we keep, the religious one or YHVH's Law, reveals which Kingdom we belong to!

It is my intention to finish Galatians chapter 3 next week.