



Betelgeuse

Orion the Hunter

Orion's Belt

Rigel

Sirius

South







THE LETTER

GALATIANS

— THAT SAVED THE CHURCH

¹ You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. ² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? ³ Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? ⁴ Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain? ⁵ So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

Galatians 3:1-5 (NIV)

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Galatians 3:1 (NIV)

Region of
Galatia



Antioch



Jerusalem
Church

Jerusalem

Mediterranean
Sea

⁴ who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father...

Galatians 1:4 (NIV)

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NIV)



THE CROSS OF CHRIST

FOREWORD BY ALISTER McGRATH



JOHN R.W. STOTT



Mondays

7:30-8:30 pm (CT)

⁶ So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” ⁷ Understand, then, that **those who have faith are children of Abraham.** ⁸ Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” ⁹ So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:6-9 (NIV)

⁶ So also **Abraham** “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

⁷ Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of **Abraham**. ⁸ Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to **Abraham**: “All nations will be blessed through you.” ⁹ So those who rely on faith are blessed along with **Abraham**, the man of faith.

¹⁰ For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” ¹¹ Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.” ¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, “The person who does these things will live by them.” ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.” ¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to **Abraham** might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the **promise** of the Spirit.

¹⁵ Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. ¹⁶ The **promises** were spoken to **Abraham** and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ. ¹⁷ What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the **promise**. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the **promise**; but God in his grace gave it to **Abraham** through a **promise**.

Galatians 3:6-18 (NIV)



Charles L. Cohen

THE ABRAHAMIC RELIGIONS

A Very Short Introduction

OXFORD

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

² “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

Genesis 12:1-4 (NIV)

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

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⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

Genesis 12:1-4 (NIV)

¹ After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.” ² But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

Genesis 15:1-3 (NIV)

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Genesis 15:4-6 (NIV)



⁶ Abram **believed** the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Genesis 15:6 (NIV)

18 Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.

Genesis 18:18 (NIV)

⁶ So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” ⁷ Understand, then, that **those who have faith are children of Abraham.** ⁸ Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and **announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.”** ⁹ So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:6-9 (NIV)

God says to Abram: “A descendant of yours will find a way to make the whole world right – all the nations will be blessed through you.”

Paul is saying to the Gentile Galatians: “If you believe that Christ can make the world right – you have the same faith as Abraham. You are a child of Abraham.”

You do not have to be ethnically Jewish to be a child of Abraham. If you believe in Christ – you are one of those stars in the heavens.

29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:29 (NIV)

⁷ Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. ⁸ Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced **the gospel** in advance to Abraham: “**All nations** will be blessed through you.”

Galatians 3:7-8 (NIV)

גוים

goy ehm

Genesis 18

ἔθνη

ethne

Galatians 3:8

Nations

Ethnic Groups

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

Revelation 7:9 (NIV)



“This past Sunday it is possible that more Christian believers attended church in China than in all of the so-called “Christian Europe.”

Mark Noll

The New Shape of Christianity, IVP Press, 2009

“This past Sunday more Anglicans attended church in each of Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda than did Anglicans in Britain and Canada and Episcopalians in the United States combined.”

Mark Noll

The Shape of Christianity

“This past Sunday more Presbyterians were at church in Ghana than in Scotland.”

Mark Noll

The Shape of Christianity