

eGal 3:15-26; 10.20.19

I. Introduction

A. Thesis: *the law drives us to the gospel, so let's obey the right way* **B. Main points**

1. The law doesn't replace
2. The law doesn't rescue
3. The law drives us to the Redeemer

II. The Law Doesn't Replace

A. Where we've been

1. 2.

3. B. Can't 1. 2. 3. 4.

Overall context: people going back to the old Mosaic Covenant
Merit system vs. gospel system (working vs. trusting for your worth)

This is our context

replace the gospel (vv. 15-18)

1st point: can't replace the gospel-foundation

Uses example of human cov't

Law coming later can't nullify the agreement already in place
Gospel system is the foundation, not merit system

III. The Law Doesn't Rescue

A. Why was it introduced then? B. Read vv. 19-20
C. Shows our sin

1. Added "because of transgressions"
2. Rom 7:7-8, "What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead."
3. "He means that the law was published in order to make known transgressions, and in this way to compel men to acknowledge their guilt. As men naturally are too ready to excuse themselves, so, until they are roused by the law, their consciences are asleep...Thus, 'the law was added because of transgressions,' in

4. 5.

6. D. Can't 1. 2.

3. 4. 5.

order to reveal their true character..."

— John Calvin

Illustration — those close to you hold up mirror to who you are
Law shows us who we are — clean mirror vs. scuffed commuter mug

Therefore, it imprisons us (v. 22)

save

Read vv. 21-22

Law/gospel not working against each other, law never meant to do what gospel does

Merit system: takes something good (law) and uses it wrongly

Will destroy you

Perfect, personal, perpetual...you up for that?

IV. The Law Points Us to the Redeemer

A. Keep listening...the law leads us to Jesus B. *Read vv. 22-24*

C. Imprisoned to receive the promise

1. Shows mess to lead to solution
2. Can never rid yourself of all your baggage...what's on your list?
3. Doesn't just rub it in your face, leads to solution

D. Guardian that leads to Christ 1. Forgiveness

- a) *Gal 3:13-14, “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.”*
- b) *2 Cor. 5:21 , “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

2. Perfection (shows only one who could perfectly obey)

a) *Heb 4:14, “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one _____ who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.”*

3. Picture of Christ’s character

- a) Not just arbitrary code/list of rules...pic of who he is
- b) Seem oppressive (hampering authority of self)?

- c) So freeing...picture of how we will thrive (he made us)

4. Picture of your future

- a) *2 Cor 3:18* , “And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”
- b) *Gal 3:13-14*, “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.”
- c) Failure shows gospel’s sufficiency...obedience shows gospel’s power

E. Obey the right way

1. Merit system vs. gospel system

V. Conclusion

a) Merit uses wrongly (merit b/f God and expect from others)...will destroy

b) Gospel love to *get* ...but *b ecause* (love, devotion to God's Word, fruits of Spirit)