

Good News for Turkey, Terrorists and Today



and



The Equivalence

THE EVIDENCE

that justification is by faith alone

4/12/15

1. The initial experience of God's indwelling presence was by faith alone

Galatians 3:1 You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?

² This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

⁴ Did you suffer so many things in vain-- if indeed it was in vain?

⁵ Does He then, who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

2. Abraham was justified by faith alone

⁶ Even so Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.

⁷ Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham.

⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, *saying*, "All the nations shall be blessed in you."

⁹ So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.

3. Attempts to be justified by the law achieve only a curse

¹⁰ For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them."

¹¹ Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, "The righteous man shall live by faith."

¹² However, the Law is not of faith; on the contrary, "He who practices them shall live by them."

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

¹⁴ in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

4. The covenant promise of justification by faith came before the law and is not altered by the law

¹⁵ Brethren, I speak in terms of human relations: even though it is *only* a man's covenant, yet when it has been ratified, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it.

¹⁶ Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, "And to your seed," that is, Christ.

¹⁷ What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise.

¹⁸ For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.

5. The law points us to the covenant promise of justification by faith alone

¹⁹ Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed should come to whom the promise had been made.

²⁰ Now a mediator is not for one *party only*; whereas God is *only* one.

²¹ Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law.

²² But the Scripture has shut up all men under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

²³ But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed.

²⁴ Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

The *Equivalence* that justification by faith alone produces

²⁶ For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

²⁷ For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.