

“Double, double toil and trouble;
 Fire burn and caldron bubble.
 Fillet of a fenny snake,
 In the caldron boil and bake;
 Eye of newt and toe of frog,
 Wool of bat and tongue of dog,
 Adder’s fork and blind-worm’s sting,
 Lizard’s leg and howlet’s wing,

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For a charm of powerful trouble,
 Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.
 Double, double toil and trouble;
 Fire burn and caldron bubble.
 Cool it with a baboon’s blood,
 Then the charm is firm and good.”

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For a charm of powerful trouble,
 Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.
 Double, double toil and trouble;
 Fire burn and caldron bubble.
 Cool it with a baboon’s blood,
 Then the charm is firm and good.”
 —William Shakespeare, *MacBeth*

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You crazy Galatians! Did someone put a hex on you? Have you taken leave of your senses? Something crazy has happened, for it’s obvious that you no longer have the crucified Jesus in clear focus in your lives. His sacrifice on the cross was certainly set before you clearly enough.

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Let me put this question to you:
 How did your new life begin? Was it by working your heads off to please God?
 Or was it by responding to God’s Message to you? Are you going to continue this craziness? For only crazy people would think they could complete by their own efforts what was begun by God. —Galatians 3:1-3 MSG

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For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”
 —Galatians 3:10 ESV

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The Curse—Us

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...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...
—Romans 3:23 ESV

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The Promise—Abraham

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... ⁶just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? ⁷Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying,

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“In you shall all the nations be blessed.” ⁹So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith...
¹¹Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.”

—Galatians 3:6-9, 11 ESV

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Genesis 12:2; 15:2-6

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... ¹⁴so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. ¹⁵To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified.

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¹⁶Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his Offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your Offspring," who is Christ.

—Galatians 3:14-16 ESV

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¹⁷This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

—Galatians 3:17-18 ESV

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The Law—Moses

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¹⁹Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the Offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. ²⁰Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. ²¹Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not!

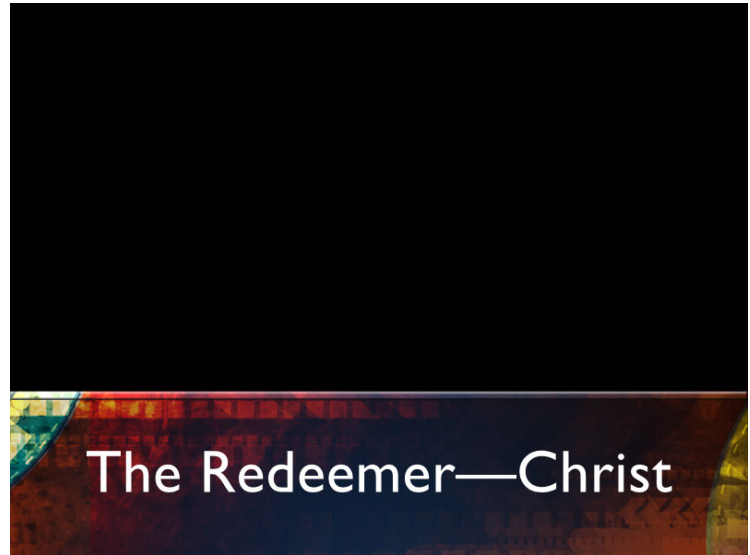
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For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²²But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. ²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. —Galatians 3:19-23 ESV

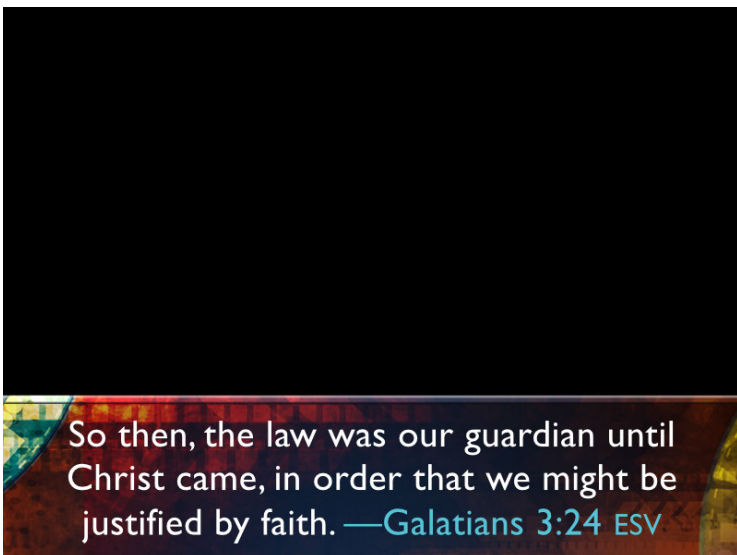
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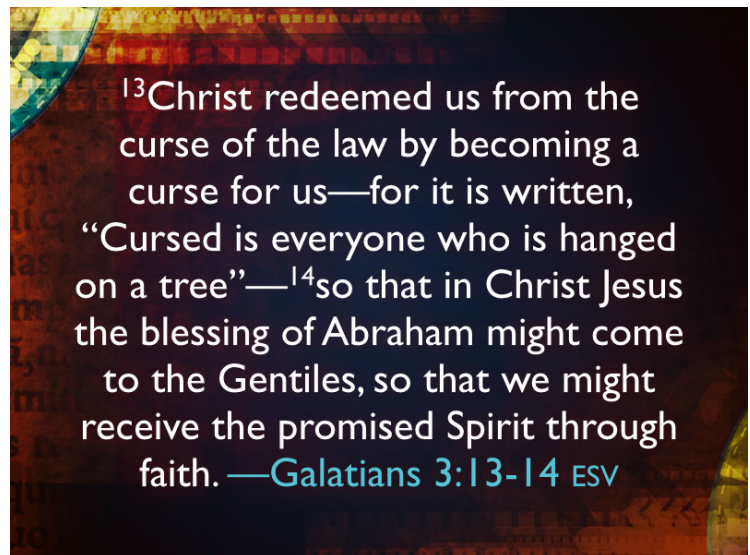
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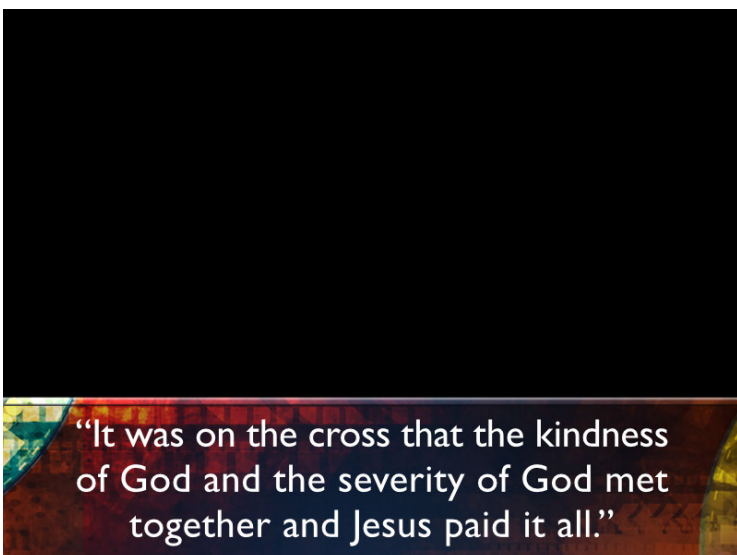
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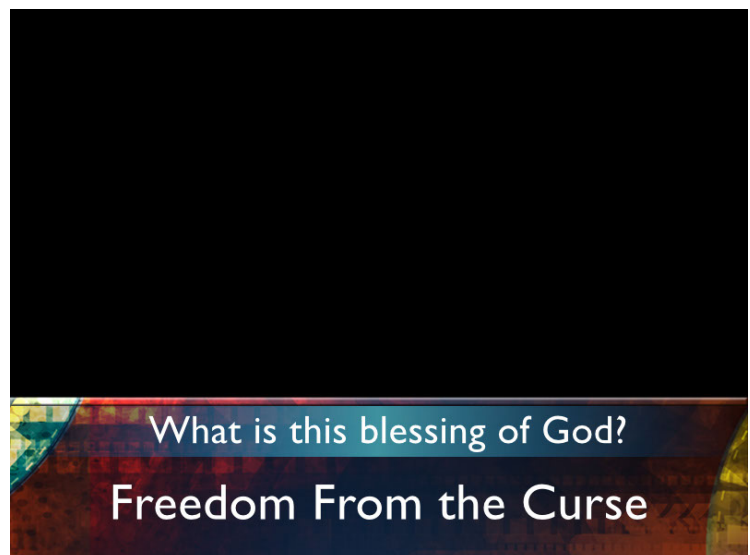
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“There was once in man a true happiness of which there now remain to him only the mark and empty trace, which he in vain tries to fill from all his surroundings, seeking from things absent to help he does not obtain things present... But these are all inadequate, because the infinite abyss can only be filled by an infinite and immutable object, that is to say, only by God Himself.” —Blaise Pascal

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What is this blessing of God?
Identity Within God's Family

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There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

—Galatians 3:28 ESV

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What is this blessing of God?
Security Apart From Performance

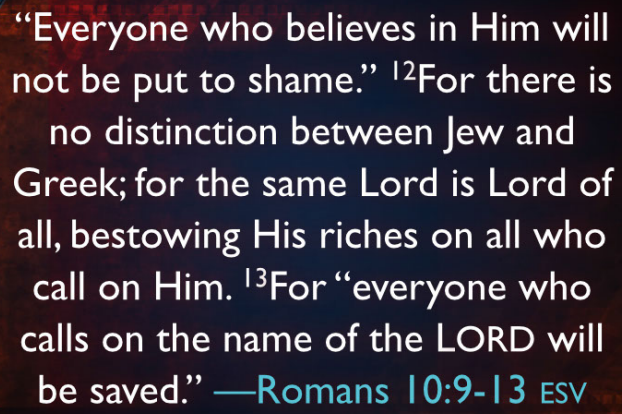
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“The promise to Abraham was not fulfilled in Isaac or Israel, but Immanuel—God with us.” (Galatians 4:4-5)

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... ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says,

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“Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.” —Romans 10:9-13 ESV

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