**Contd.**

**Galatians 3:19**

*What purpose then does the law serve? It was added (to the Abrahamic Covenant) because of transgressions, till (for a season) the Seed (Christ) should come to whom the promise was made …*

**To put a cap on it:**

**Hebrews 8:6-13 - the focus on Jesus**

***6****But now He (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.*

***7****For if that first covenant (under Moses) had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.****8****Because finding fault with them, He says: “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant (under Jesus) with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—*

***9****not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the Lord.*

***10****For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

**Finish in faith**

*“for without faith it is impossible to please God”*

**Hebrews 11:6**

****November 10th. 2019**



**Stand Firm – Part 2**

***“Start & Finish in Faith”***

Welcome

2019

**Stand Firm – Part 2**

**‘Start & Finish in Faith’**

**Galatians 5:1** (NIV)

*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.*

*Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*

**Track & Field  
*“How you finish really counts”***

Spiritually,

When we start in faith = good

When we change lanes = bad

When we finish in faith = good

**Freedom is always under attack  
*“Mixture is not good”***

Our adversary chips away at our freedom both ‘directly’ & ‘indirectly’

- Tradition (substitutes); religion; deceit; even neglect.

- Persecution: in your face opposition, or subtle intimidation.

Egs from Paul’s letter to the **Colossians**

**Chapter 1:18** (Something other than Christ as number 1)

**Chapter 2:4** (Smooth talking – style over substance)

**Chapter 2:8** (Willful manipulation)

Can simple neglect over time steal our freedom?

**Hebrews 2:1** – Yes we can ‘drift’

**Paul calls a spade a “shovel”!!**

**Galatians 3:1**

**Galatians 3:1**

*O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?*

“Bewitched” *-* The word used here (ἐβάσκανεν ebaskanen) properly means: to prate about anyone; and then to mislead by pretenses, as if by magic arts; to fascinate; to influence by a charm.

Paul paints a black & white picture between Law & Faith:

Faith – you believe and receive from Jesus

Law – things you must do to please God

**The righteousness connection**

**Galatians 3:5-6**

*…He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?— 6just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”*

**Which came first?  
*(Chicken or the egg?)***

Faith covenant given to Abraham 430 yrs. **before** Law given to Moses.

Law added temporarily **untill** Messiah came in fulfilment of promise to Abraham.

**What purpose did / does the Law serve today?**

It was ‘added’ to point out unbeliever’s sin,

- they can’t measure up by their own efforts.

It served as a ‘tutor’ to bring us to Christ

- who was the only one perfect in keeping the whole Law.