

Galatians 3:

The benefits of Great Faith

Galatians 3:6 –28

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of thing not seen” Hebrews 11:1. It is this faith that lends to the assurance of eternal salvation. Abraham was the great biblical recipient of such a faith that led to his salvation. The most poverty stricken man may be rich if he would exercise faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. Occasionally we hear of a story, “From rags to riches.” This may be the experience of all who are bankrupt. There are those who wait for a relative to die in order to inherit their wealth. May I inform you that the Son of God died that you may be the recipient of the wealth of heaven? Paul is explaining to us the inheritance of faith.

Abraham believed in God; He exercised personal trust, accepted God’s Word, “and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” This means that Abraham had to believe God for a son in his barren years. It was this son who God ordered to be sacrificed, which would have to suggest that he believed in a future resurrection as well as the resurrection of his son in order to have God fulfill His promise of the coming Redeemer.. This revealed Abraham’s incredible faith. This is faith that seizes the life preserver thrown out to a drowning man. This was the reason for Abraham’s “righteousness.” Abraham did not come with his self-righteousness and, thus being sadly disappointed. Faith is the message of this section as it appears six times in this portion. A father who builds his life on faith in God is closing the door to doubt, which will dramatically touch his family as it touched and Isaac Jacob.

There is no hope for anyone under the law, therefore, why impose the law in whatever form, contrary to God’s word on humanity? Do such not know that he is cursed who would do so (1:7 – 9)? Is it not expressed clear enough as we read verse ten that such are accursed? “For as many are as of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written. Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.” The argument goes beyond this and relates the promise

was made to Abraham before the giving of the law, relating that there was salvation before the law. The law was given as a “school master to bring us to Christ according to 3:24. Now that we are in Christ, along with Abraham, we no longer need to be under this school master as recorded in 3:25. Yes, I am grateful for the school master for it drove me to Christ. The law showed my transgression; the law was given to constrain me from going into sin; the law was given to show me my sin and guilt. The most lawless of humanity may be justified. In Christ there is neither Jew nor gentile excluded from the riches of God in Christ Jesus (3:26). As God saves the heathen by faith, so He saves the Jew by faith.

The gospel message is such that the world, the religious and unreligious must be challenged by these truths. My prayer is that all who are of the redeemed are well occupied in sharing this message with all humanity. The window of time before the coming of the Lord is narrowing, suggesting that night is near and The King is coming. Claim salvation through faith in the finished work of Jesus on the cross. As God speaks to you and you have desire to be saved and/or desire to be involved in missions, respond to my Email address for more information jandrvdv@nbnet.nb.ca . Jerry Vander Veen

We encourage your enquiries and comments at jandrvdv@nbnet.nb.ca