

Rebel Yell

Week 2: By Faith Alone

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Weekly Summary: How do we get to the amazing grace of God? Not by works, but through faith. This message helps define faith (simple trust) and ensure that faith is always a gift to rebels, not a choice of the spiritually so-so.

- ❖ Galatians 3:1-5 - You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. **2** I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? **3** Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? **4** Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain? **5** So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

The Law	The Gospel
About <u>you</u>	About <u>Jesus</u>
<u>Do! Don't!</u>	Jesus <u>did!</u>
<u>Commandments</u>	<u>Promises</u>
<u>Obey!</u>	<u>Believe!</u>
<u>Love</u> God and others!	God <u>loves</u> you and others!
Demands <u>perfection</u>	Makes you <u>perfect</u>

- ❖ Galatians 3:6-9 - So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” **7** Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. **8** Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” **9** So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Romans 1:17a - For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last.

❖ Big Idea: It's **still** not about you!

❖ Galatians 3:10-12 - For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." **11** Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because "the righteous will live by faith." **12** The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, "The person who does these things will live by them."

Galatians 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 hung on a pole." **14** He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Points to Ponder

1. Read Paul's famous words in Galatians 5:16-18 about the struggle even the strongest Christians face. How does that struggle support the idea that being accepted by a perfect God can never be, even partially, about you?
2. Look back at Galatians 3:10-12. What would Paul say to the modern philosophies and religions that base their hope in effort, karma, commandments, or simply "being a decent person"?
3. Evaluate: Hearing the good news of salvation by grace through faith is constantly necessary, since it is the most unnatural thing in the world.

Homework For Next Week: Acts 17:1-15

*"Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace."
~ Martin Luther*

Worship Through Song at The CORE:

1. "You Never Let Go" - by Jeremy Camp
2. "Strong God" - by Meredith Andrews
3. "I Look To The King" - by Meredith Andrews
4. "Cornerstone" - by Aaron Shust