

### **The Goal of the Law Is Christ's Righteousness for All Who Believe**

Rom 10.1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

**Paul's desire** and prayer are for Israel to be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Israel got** Christ wrong, because she got the law wrong, and both for the same reason: She lacked the \_\_\_\_\_ of Abraham in God's promises concerning the Seed of Abraham, Jesus Christ.

**In vs 4**, the Greek word translated "end" is *telos*, which does not mean end as in annulment or abrogation, but end as in "ends and means," end as in \_\_\_\_\_ or purpose or destination.

**Vs 4 is not** saying that Christ has finally busted up that old dead end road of trying to \_\_\_\_\_ your own righteousness through the law; but that Christ and righteousness in him always has been the goal, purpose, and destination of the law for all who believe. The law is not the dead end road leading away from righteousness in Christ; the law is the road leading to righteousness in Christ, but it takes the \_\_\_\_\_ of Abraham to travel that road. Vs 4 reads in the Greek, in terms of word flow: "For goal of the law — Christ unto righteousness to everyone who believes." But Israel as a whole was ignorant and missed out on what the law was all about, because she did not have the faith of Abraham in the promised Seed of Abraham.

**Vs 3 is saying** that Israel, "being ignorant of God's righteousness [that is, God's fulfillment of his promises in \_\_\_\_\_ and his perfect righteousness], and seeking to establish their own righteousness [by trusting in their own \_\_\_\_\_ as being the people who have the covenant and its sign and its law setting them apart from Gentiles], have not submitted to the righteousness

of God [they have taken offense at \_\_\_\_\_, who is God's righteousness, rather than recognizing the fulfillment of God's promises in him, and gladly receiving and yielding to the same]."

**To really let** this settle in within us, we must go back to where Paul always goes, and that is to \_\_\_\_\_, the father of all believers.

Rom 4.11 ... [Abraham] the father of all those who believe ...

**We must first** remember that it was specifically God the \_\_\_\_\_, the preincarnate Jesus Christ, who appeared to Abraham.

John 8.56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." 57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" 58, Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, I Am." 59 Then they took up stones to throw at him ...

### **Genesis 12 – God calls Abraham.**

Gen 12.1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Gal 3.8 ... God ... preached the gospel ... to Abraham, saying, 'In you all the nations shall be blessed.'"

### **Genesis 15 – Abraham believes God, and it is accounted to him as righteousness; God makes a last will and testament covenant with Abraham.**

Gen 15.5 "Look now toward heaven and number the stars if you are to number them [a phrase which means not just count, but name and number or name in order]. So shall your seed be." 6 And Abraham believed in the LORD, and he accounted it to Abraham for righteousness.

Gal 3.16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.

Gen 15.17 [B]ehold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those [sacrificial animal] pieces. 18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram ...

Heb 9.15 For this reason [Jesus] is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death ..., that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. 16 For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

**Genesis 17** – God calls Abraham to “\_\_\_\_\_ before Me and be blameless”; God makes the covenant of circumcision, and commands the sign to his children.

*Gen 17.1 “I am Almighty God; walk before me and be blameless. 2 And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly ... 4 My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.”*

— This is the early prototype of the \_\_\_\_\_. It means, “Walk with Me in light of the \_\_\_\_\_ by which I have already accounted you righteous. And as you do so, start walking like Me; begin to take on My character.” So the covenant of circumcision represents a \_\_\_\_\_ of Abraham’s faith and his relationship with the God who has saved him.

*Rom 4.11 [Abraham] received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised ...*

— What does a sign do?

— What does a seal do?

**When it comes** to the exodus and the giving of the law, we see God following the same \_\_\_\_\_ as he did with Abraham.

— First comes the \_\_\_\_\_, with the sacrificial death of the lamb, and the blood going on the doorway, so that the angel of death \_\_\_\_\_ over. What are the people called to do?

— What about the law? It comes \_\_\_\_\_ promise and faith, and is \_\_\_\_\_ promise and faith. The law emphasizes

the same thing as God’s covenant in Gen 17, when he tells Abraham, “Walk before me, and be blameless.”

*Deut 10.12 “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 to keep the commandments of the LORD ... which I command you today for your good? ... 16 Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart ...”*

*Luke 1.6 [Zacharias and Elizabeth] were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments ... of the Lord blameless.*

**The law was** simply a fuller explanation of what it means to \_\_\_\_\_ with God and \_\_\_\_\_ him and one another.

*Mat 22.37 Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

**The only other** thing added was the typological and ceremonial aspects of the law, which were object lessons to keep pointing the people to the promises concerning the coming \_\_\_\_\_, and nurturing \_\_\_\_\_ in him.

**So with the** law, circumcision meant that you were defined by promise and \_\_\_\_\_, that you were committed to walking with God, and that you were undertaking the obligation of enacting the typological parts of the law to keep \_\_\_\_\_ yourself, your family, and the nations all about to God’s promises and faith in those promises. If you were a Gentile, you could believe the promises, and worship God at the tabernacle, and walk with God without taking on the obligations to enact the typological aspects of the law.

*Rom 4.11 [Abraham] received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also, 12 and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised.*

**What is the** common denominator? \_\_\_\_\_ If you don’t believe, Abraham is not your \_\_\_\_\_.

*Gal 3.29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

**So what was** the goal, purpose, and destination of the law? Christ’s righteousness for everyone who \_\_\_\_\_.