

# BEFORE AND AFTER FAITH CAME

## Introduction

### 1) Galatians 3:23-25

- 2) In context, Paul is speaking of God's great plan involving the Promise, the Law, and Faith
  - a) **The Promise** – God's promise to Abraham (vv. 8, 14-18)
  - b) **The Law** – law of Moses added because of sin and confined all under sin (vv. 19-22); temporary until the Seed (Christ) should come (v. 19)
  - c) **Faith** – gospel system under Christ (vv. 13-14, 22-25)

### I) FAITH

#### A) Used in two senses in the Scriptures

- 1) The faith, gospel of Christ, body of truth revealed by God for man (Rom. 1:5; Jude 3)
- 2) The believing response of man to the gospel (Jas. 2:20-22; Eph. 2:8)

#### B) Our personal faith comes from "the faith" (Rom. 10:17)

#### C) Romans 1:16-17 – "from faith to faith"

- 1) Statement of sequence – identifies end product and its source
- 2) The revelation of God's righteousness in the gospel (the faith) is the only true source of belief (faith) in man that saves, thus "from faith to faith"

#### D) "Faith" in Galatians 3:23-25 is the system of faith – the gospel of Christ

- 1) Was "revealed" (v. 23), and "has come" (v. 25)
- 2) Clear distinction between the time "before" and "after" faith – *the two covenants*

### II) BEFORE FAITH CAME

#### *The Law of Moses*

(Ex. 24:1-12; Col. 2:14)

#### *The Jewish Nation*

(Ex. 19:5-6; Jn. 4:22)

#### *Fleshly Circumcision*

(Lev. 12:3; Ex. 12:44, 48)

#### *Animal Sacrifices*

(Lev. 1:2-17; Lev. 3-5)

#### *Sins Remembered*

(Heb. 10:3-4, 11)

#### *Sabbath Observed*

(Ex. 20:8-11; Lev. 26:2)

### AFTER FAITH CAME

#### *The Law of Christ*

(1 Cor. 9:21; Gal. 6:2; Heb. 10:9)

#### *All Nations*

(Isa. 2:2; Lk. 24:47; Eph. 2:11-12)

#### *Circumcision of the Heart*

(Col. 2:11-12)

#### *Spiritual Sacrifices*

(1 Pet. 2:5; Rom. 12:1; Heb. 13:15; Phil. 4:18)

#### *Sins Remembered No More*

(Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:12; 9:12; 10:18)

#### *First Day of the Week*

(Col. 2:16-17; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2)

## Conclusion

The distinction between the old and new covenant is clear. There is not one "eternal" covenant which has been renewed again and again. "After faith has come" we are no longer under the Law of Moses. The first was taken away in order to establish the second (Heb. 10:9). We now live in the time of "faith in Christ." Will you believe and obey?