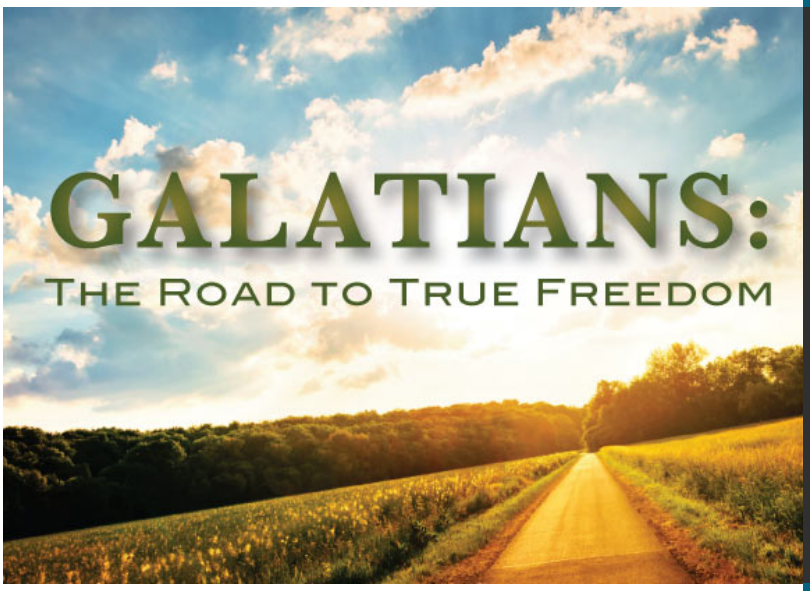
WellspringMinistries
"Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it..."

July 2014



So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

(Gal. 3:24-25).

God's Good Law

by Pastor Pat Hadley

It is truly sad that God's law gets so much bad press, even in Christian circles. Many have used the book of Galatians to say that God's law is dead, or worse, that his law is faulty.

In my study of Galatians, for the series, Galatians: The Road to True Freedom, I have found that Paul is not arguing *against* God's law. He is arguing against the improper use of God' law. When we understand what God's law, or Torah, is meant to do, it becomes a beautiful expression of his grace, for it is the law (Torah) that leads us to salvation in Jesus Christ. Here's how Paul says it:

Gal. 3:23-25
Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

The faith he is talking about is trusting and relying on Jesus for salvation AND for helping us to be able to obey God's law (Torah) from the heart. Here are three important ways God's law (Torah) helps us as those who trust and follow Jesus:

1. A Discerner. As we learn the difference between right and wrong, we are confronted with our own sin. This awareness of our sin brings the knowledge that we need forgiveness and help! This is the same for Jews and Gentiles. It leads us all to our need for Jesus!

2. A Guardian. The word guardian refers to a real person who was hired to bring children to Torah school and watch over them during the day...similar to a nanny. *This function* of the law is intended for those who don't yet trust Jesus, to keep them from harm!

Just as you wouldn't allow your two year old to cross the road without holding your hand, so God's law is intended to protect people from the harm caused by following our own ways.

Is that a loving thing to do? Of course!

Paul says, ***"Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian."*** In other words, for those who are trusting Jesus as Messiah, the guardian, or the law, changes functions into something much deeper than simply a guardian.

3. A Guide for Life. To those who are trusting in Jesus as Messiah, the law now functions as a guide to life, knowing the heart of God, and the ethics of his Kingdom! This doesn't just go for the legal part of the Torah…this goes for the whole Torah – the whole Bible! The Bible is our guide for life, it helps us to know the heart of God, and it teaches us the ethics of God's kingdom! As Paul wrote to his student Timothy:

2 Tim. 3:16-17
All Scripture is God- breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

God's law equips us for every good work! What a wonderful thing!

Thank you Lord for your beautiful word – your Torah – your law! Thank you for loving us enough to not leave us on our own. Thank you for Jesus who saves us from our sins. And thank you for your indwelling Spirit that helps us to live in your ways as learn your word.

May you be blessed more and more as you obey God's laws from your hearts!

Pastor Pat Hadley

Watch or Listen to Pastor Pat's Sermon series on
Galatians: The Road to True Freedom at
http://akwellspring.com/podcasts-sermons/

Report: Wellspring Pakistan Seminar

Dr. Jefferson Tasleem Ghauri sent an email update to Art regarding the Wellspring Seminar they had. Here is what he wrote and pictures he sent.

"Dear Dr. Art Mathias
Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord.
Here is report of wellspring seminar held on Friday 27 June in Bahawalnagar city. We have our July Seminar in Chak Jhumra or Haroonabad will decide city in few days but many of cities are in line and we will reach every city every month. We will update everything on our wellspring website soon.
Praying for your and thankful for your contribution for organizing seminars in Pakistani Churches."



Rev.Shafqat Nadeem Gill and Rev.Azeem Amir



Pakistan Wellspring Seminar Participants



"I already this book two year before and I was patient of diabetes (Sugar) and I remove bitterness and anger and other satanic diseases in my life and when again I feel bitterness and anger I always remember the teaching of Dr .Art Mathias and I feel relax I can say I found Freedom in real " Evangelist. Mrs. Shaheen



"I am thankful to Wellspring Ministries of Alaska which organize this program for the teaching and healing. I am very young age but I was always feel bitterness from my parents and I feel anxiety but after the teaching of Dr. Art Mathias I feel free from all these bitterness. God bless this ministry and teaching" Amen

Wellspring School of Ministry July 28-Aug 8



There is still time to sign up for the summer session of The Wellspring School of Ministry held at Wellspring Ministries in Anchorage, Alaska.

The purpose of the school is to provide advanced training for ministering to others. The first week is 40 hours of comprehensive classroom instruction and group ministry. Wellspring staff members and guest speakers provide instruction. The second week is observing actual ministry settings with Wellspring staff, then practicing one-on-one ministry under staff direction.

The cost of tuition is $600 and includes all training materials used during class plus a catered lunch is provided during the first week. Students are responsible for their own travel, lodging plans and expenses. Download the registration form, class dates, tuition and lodging information at: http://akwellspring.com/ministry/schools/