

What the Scriptures Foresaw

Galatians 3:6-14

Galatians 3:6–14 (ESV) ⁶ just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? ⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” ⁹ So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith. ¹⁰ For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” ¹¹ Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” ¹² But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

1. The Scriptures Foresaw the Plan of Salvation v.6-7
2. The Scriptures Foresaw the People of Salvation v.8-12
3. The Scriptures Foresaw the Provider of Salvation v.13-14
4. The Scriptures Foresaw the Product of Salvation v.11

Questions for Reflection and Application

Abraham did not only believe in God but he believed God.

-What is the difference in these two faiths and how do you explain this to someone who doesn't understand?

-How does having righteousness credited to us change the way we see ourselves? Our Christian lives? Jesus Christ?

Abraham lived by faith. The Judaizers lived by works of the law and this brought a psychological curse upon them. Attempting to be saved by works will lead to profound anxiety and insecurity, because you can never be sure that you are living up to your standards sufficiently, whatever they may be. This makes you over-sensitive to criticism, envious and intimidated by others who outshine you. It makes you nervous and timid because you are unsure of where you stand or else swaggering and boastful because you are trying to convince yourself of where you stand. Either way, you live with a sense of curse and condemnation.

-Have you experienced, or witnessed others experiencing, the psychological “curse” of living by the law?

-The key to this passage is "the righteous shall live by faith." What are practical ways we live out our faith in life?