

## Lecture 35 – Paul & Theology: Changed Understanding of Faith, Torah & Relationships

“So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus...” Galatians 3:24-26

### Key Terms

Faith, Law, relationships, equality, distinctiveness

### Objectives

- \*Explain what the relationship is between faith and works.
- \*Indicate what Paul teaches regarding the Law.
- \*Analyze how we as human beings are equal, complimentary *and* distinctive.
- \*Describe the complementarity in male-female relationships.
- \*Understand the distinctiveness of male and females.

### Paul & Theology: Changed Understanding of Faith, Torah & Relationships

#### I. Changed Understanding of Faith

- A. Gal. 3:24, 26
- B. Faith is not another form of works.
- C. We are dependent on God’s grace for faith.
- D. Eph. 2:8-10: Faith is the gift of God.

#### II. Changed Understanding of Torah

- A. Paul does not absolutely abrogate the Law, but recognizes that it is God’s Word.
- B. The purpose of the Mosaic law
  1. Read this Law and see it as God’s purposes and intentions for one’s life.
  2. Only by God’s Spirit we can live this out, but it cannot save us.

#### III. Changed Relationships

- A. Remember Paul’s cultural setting – it prescribed a certain pattern for relationships.
- B. Gender: Equality, complementarity, distinctiveness
  1. Paul does not deny the creation order. He deals with the fall of that creation order and how it is redeemed in Christ – there is true equality in redemption.
  2. Creation – Fall – Redemption
- C. Gal. 3:28: We are all the same in receiving salvation.
- D. There is a need to maintain gender distinctiveness (dispositions and purposes). To deny this is to diminish God’s rich creation.
- E. Complementary distinction is based on the Godhead (the headship, submission, service, love, and unity within the Godhead).
- F. Slavery and gender issues must/should be distinguished in this discussion, since slavery has no grounding in the creation order.

*A discussion of the final exam follows.*