

Lenten Devotional Reflection
29th February, 2020 (Lent Day 4)

Scripture: Galatians 3:15-22 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹⁵ Brothers and sisters, I give an example from daily life: once a person's will has been ratified, no one adds to it or annuls it. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring; it does not say, "And to offsprings," as of many; but it says, "And to your offspring," that is, to one person, who is Christ. ¹⁷ My point is this: the law, which came four hundred thirty years later, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes from the law, it no longer comes from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise.

¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. ²⁰ Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one.

²¹ Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. ²² But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Message

Law cannot annul a covenant previously ratified so that the promise will become futile (verse 17). This graceful decision was made by God as this is a gift granted to Abraham according to the promise (verse 18). Paul pointed out that law was added because of man's intentional sins and deviance. The law draws some boundaries to let people know if they have committed sins. The law cannot give man the power to overcome sin and set free from sin. Only the Gospel of Jesus can accomplish.

The Bible lets us understand that all of us are sinners before the Lord, and that by having faith in Jesus, God's promised blessings will be given to those who believe in Him (verse 19-22).

Reflection

1. Do you have the experience of setting free from sin through the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
2. Do you believe God will guide us to overcome the novel coronavirus epidemic?
3. During this time of adversity and isolation, can we seek different kinds of religious life?

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