

Introduction:

Paul begins his defense that Justification is only by faith, by describing the Galatians current departure from that position. (Galatians 3:1) They are foolish and bewitched. These are very strong words. Their current course is one of folly. They have had a "spell" cast over them. They have been charmed into believing error. Paul had powerfully communicated to them the cross of Christ– and what was accomplished on it. Faith does not keep it's eyes on the law– It keeps its eyes on Christ– the fulfillment of the law. In particular Christ had obtained our eternal redemption by satisfying the righteous requirements of the law. 1 Peter 2:23-25.

Justification: "By justification, we mean the judicial act of God which, on account of Christ, to whom the sinner is united by faith, He declares that sinner to be no longer exposed to the penalty of the law, but restored to His (God's) favor." (Systematic Theology, Augustus Strong) page 849.

Arguments for Justification by faith. Galatians 3:2-29

1. The Experience of the Galatians. vs. 2-5 (Acts 14:3, 8-11, 19-23)

2. The Experience of Abraham. vs 6-9 (Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-7)

3. The Effects of the Law. vs. 10-12 (Deut. 29:26; Habakkuk 2:4; Leviticus 18:5; Deut. 21:23)

4. The Effects of Christ's Work vs. 13-14 (Mark 10:45; Matt. 1:21)

5. The Endurance of God's Promises. vs. 15-18 (Hebrews 11)

6. The Purposes of God's Law. vs. 19-25 (1 Timothy 1:8-11; Romans 8:1-4)

7. The Oneness found in Christ. vs. 26-29 (John 17:20-26)
