

Review; Galatians 3:23-27

These two verses describe the state of the unbeliever who is under the Law and its wide variety of goads including discipline, pain, suffering, and chastisement. But, once faith alone is placed in Christ alone for eternal life, then the pedagogue is dismissed and the believer moves out from under the Law and under grace.

Galatians 3:25 - But now that faith has come [positive volition at Gospel hearing], we are no longer under a pedagogue [paidagogos - the Law].

Galatians 3:26 - For you [believers] are all sons of God [huios - legally recognized adult sons] through faith in Christ Jesus.

In Galatians 3:23 and Galatians 3:24 the person was under the enforced humility of the Law as pedagogue whose job it was to constantly goad him into submission.

The drug addict I talked to on the telephone was suffering from major goad overload when he called me looking for some relief. After having heard the truth, he chose to reject it. Therefore, he remains under custody in order to continue the futile task of goad kicking and administration by the pedagogue of severe chastisement. I calculate that the pressure will be more than he can bear.

But at Galatia, the response was positive once they realized that their good works were not really good. God does not owe us anything except salvation, and that only when we accept Jesus Christ as Savior. However, positive volition at Gospel hearing does become a catalyst for a number of instant changes in the new believer's relationship with God.

Galatians 3:27 - For all of you who were baptized into Christ [baptism of the Holy Spirit] have clothed [enduo] yourself with Christ.

We have studied the Roman custom of adoption in the past and it is applicable to this passage as it highlights the result of a child making the transition from Enforced to Genuine Humility.