

## **Flummoxed**

Galatians 1:1-10

Galatians 3:1 – 5:12

Galatians 6:11-18

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The assemblies of believers founded by Paul throughout the province of Galatia were being led astray by false teachers, who insisted salvation for Gentile believers required they be circumcised and obey the Law of Moses. This concept was diametrically opposed to the true message of grace – salvation by faith in Jesus Christ. Paul was flummoxed at how these believers had so quickly turned from the course he had set them on. He wrote a letter to be circulated among the various faith communities in Galatia.

How foolish can you be? Circumcision will not save you! Obeying the entire Law will not save you! Did God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obeyed the Law? No! It was because of your faith.

God promised Abraham, "All the nations will be blessed through you." Abraham believed, and God considered him righteous because of his faith. And that was hundreds of years before the Law was given to Moses!

No one is made right with God by observing the Law. The purpose of the Law was to slow the proliferation of wickedness within the nation of Israel until God's promise to all the nations could be fulfilled by the death and resurrection of Jesus. All humanity was imprisoned by the Law, waiting for salvation through faith in Christ.

We who believe are Abraham's descendants, adopted through Christ to be children of God. These false teachers want to imprison you again under the Law. Don't let them do it! You are free in Christ! Stay that way!

I wish those troublemakers who want to mutilate you by circumcision would mutilate themselves.