

# **Study Guide for *Commentary on Galatians 3-4*, by John Calvin**

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**Extra Reading for the course:  
"Kingdom and Covenant in the  
New Testament"**

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## Read John Calvin, Commentary on Galatians 3-4

### Review Questions

#### Chapter 3

1. According to Calvin, when Paul calls the Galatians "foolish," what does he mean?
2. What does Paul mean, according to Calvin, when he says that Christ had been crucified among the Galatians?
3. What example does Paul give in Galatians 3 of an Old Testament leader that was justified by faith?
4. According to Calvin, can we not only be justified by faith, but also by works?
5. According to Calvin, what does Paul mean by "blessed" in Galatians 3:9 when he says that those who have faith are "blessed" with Abraham?
6. What does it mean to be "of the works of the law" (Galatians 3:10)?
7. What does Paul mean in Galatians 3:12 when he says, "The law is not of faith"?
8. According to Calvin, once we have believed in Christ, are we liberated from keeping the law?
9. In his interpretation of Galatians 3:16, what does Calvin explain about the Hebrew word for "seed"?
10. In his interpretation of Galatians 3:17, what does Calvin say about whether the law could annul the promise of salvation by grace, making men obtain salvation in another way?
11. According to Calvin, what did Paul mean by saying that the law was added "because of transgressions"?
12. According to Calvin, when Paul speaks of the law in Galatians, is he referring only to the moral law?
13. According to Calvin, did the law of the Old Testament reveal Christ?
14. According to Calvin, in the Old Testament "the ceremonies might be said to shadow out an absent Christ, but to us he is represented as actually present, and thus while they had the \_\_\_\_\_, we have the \_\_\_\_\_."

15. "Whatever might be the amount of darkness under the law, the fathers were not ignorant of the \_\_\_\_\_."

16. Describe the illustration about a journey that Calvin uses to explain the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

17. Paul teaches in Galatians 3:24 that the law was like a \_\_\_\_\_, training the people and leading them to Christ.

18. According to Calvin, the law "does not openly exhibit Christ and his grace, but points him out at a distance, and only when hidden by the covering of \_\_\_\_\_."

#### **Chapter 4**

1. According to Galatians 4:1-2, in what sense were the Old Testament people of God, even though they were true heirs, more like a servant?

2. Why did Jesus place Himself under subjection to the law?

3. "Our attention is again directed to the distinction between \_\_\_\_\_. The ancients were also sons of God, and heirs through Christ, but we hold the same character in a different manner; for we have Christ present with us, and in that manner enjoy his blessings."

4. What are the examples given in Galatians 4:9-10 of "weak and beggarly elements"?

5. According to Calvin, what makes the observance of special days sometimes inappropriate?

6. According to Calvin, how should every true minister of Christ be treated?

7. What name was usually given to the five books of Moses during Bible times?

8. In what sense is the story of Abraham and his two sons an "allegory," according to Calvin (Galatians 4:24)?

9. According to Calvin, does Scripture have various meanings?

10. According to Calvin, "the true meaning of Scripture is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ meaning."

11. According to Galatians 4:24, Ishmael and Isaac represent two different \_\_\_\_\_.

12. According to Galatians 4:21-26, what things are represented by Ishmael, born of Agar?

13. According to Galatians 4:21-26, what things are represented by Isaac, born of Sarah?