



# Abraham's Offspring?

Galatians 3:15-29



# Galatians 4:21

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law,  
do you not listen to the law?



# Exodus 35:2

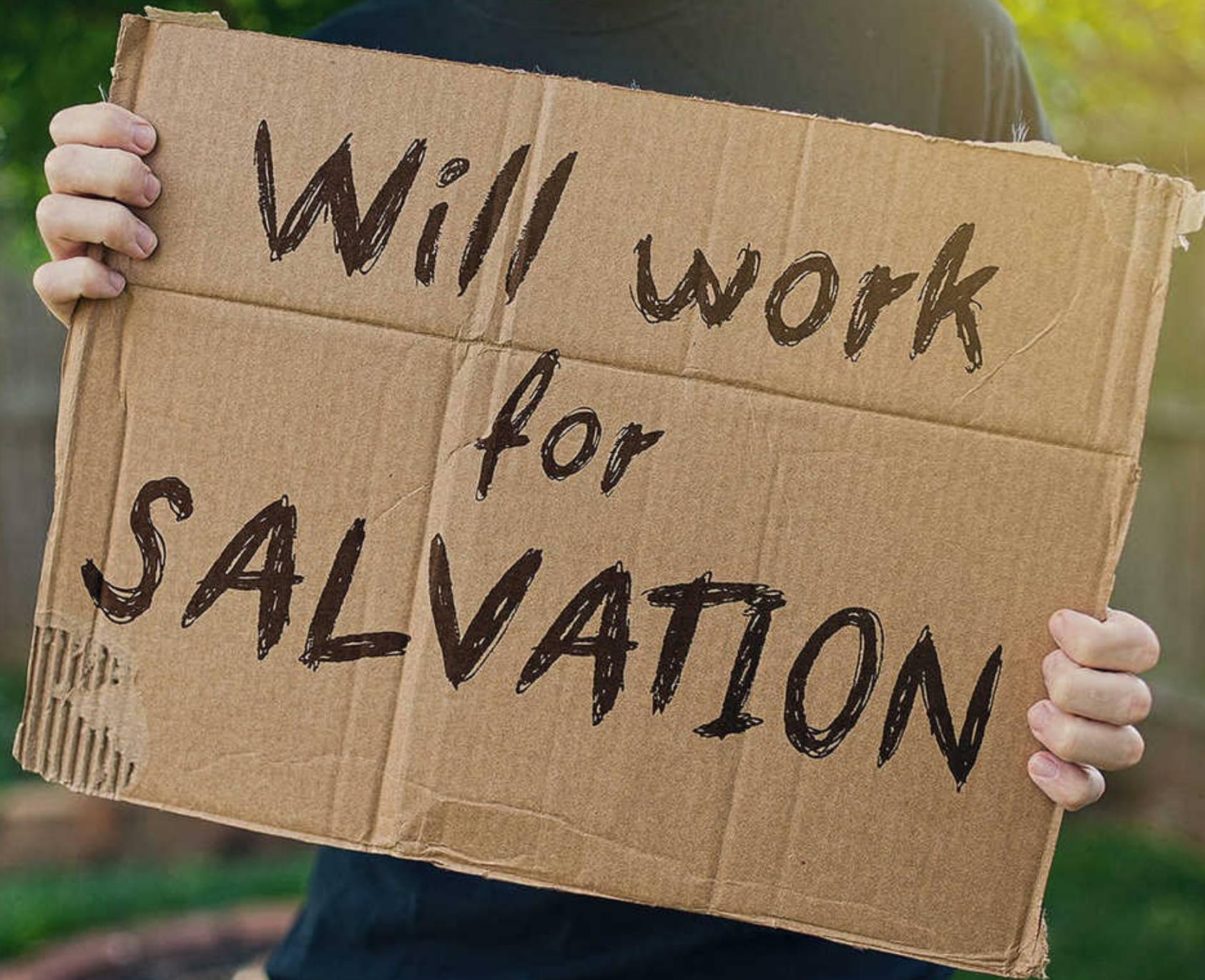
Six days work shall be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on it shall be put to death.











Will work  
for  
SALVATION



# Galatians 3:15-18

To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.



# Galatians 3:16

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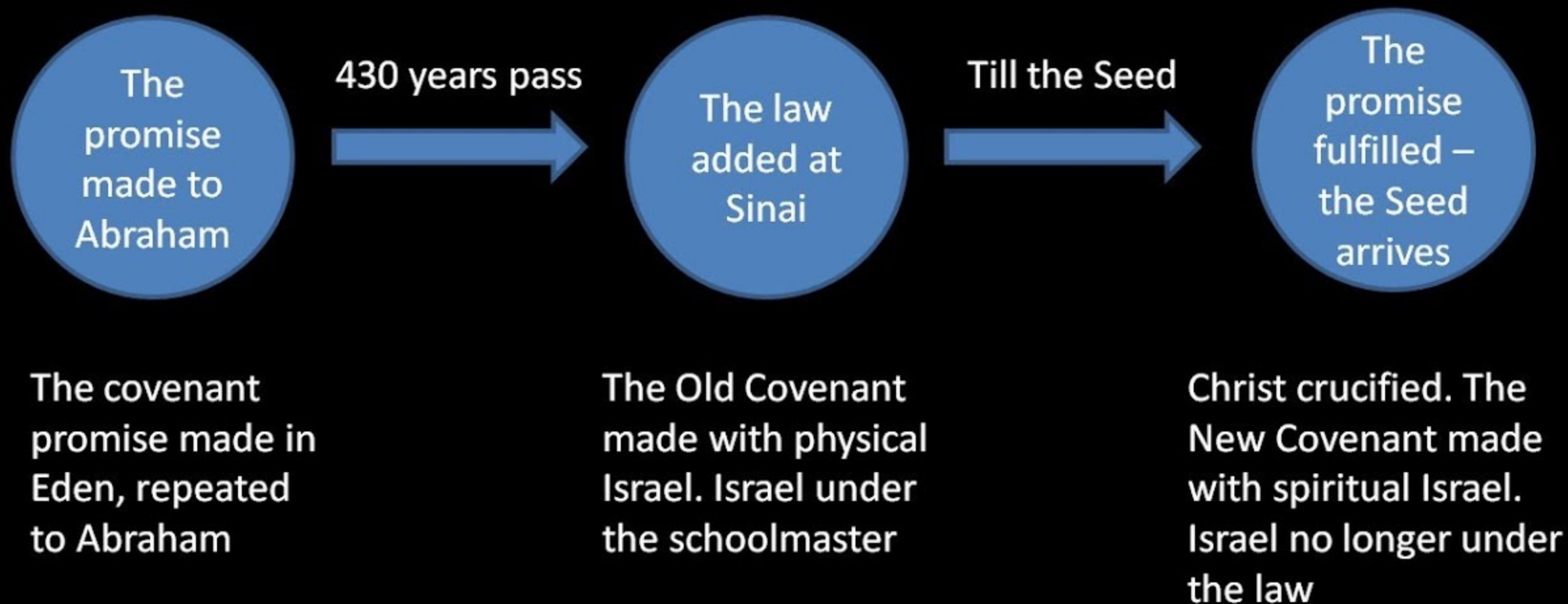


# Genesis 22:15-18

And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”



## The timeline of the Covenants as explained in Galatians 3



# Galatians 3:19-26

Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one.



# Galatians 3:19-26

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.



# Galatians 3:19-26

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.



# 3 Purposes of the Law

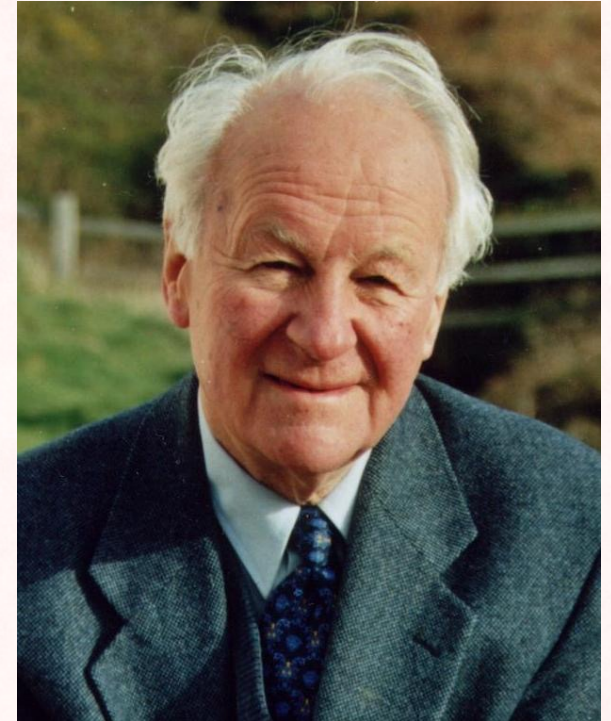
1. It was added because of transgressions (v. 19)
2. [It] imprisoned everything under sin (v. 22)
3. Before faith came, we were held captive under the law (v. 23)





“After God gave the promise to Abraham, He gave the law to Moses. Why? He had to make things worse before He could make them better. The law exposed sin, provoked sin, condemned sin.

The purpose of the law was to lift the lid off man’s respectability and disclose what he really is underneath—sinful, rebellious, guilty, under the punishment of God and helpless to save himself. And the law must still be allowed to do its God-given duty today.

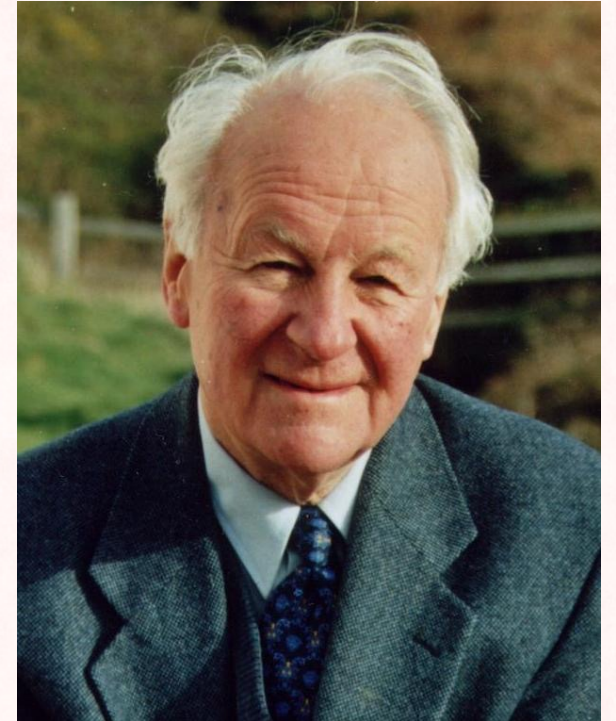


**John Stott**



One of the greatest faults of the contemporary church is the tendency to soft-pedal sin and judgment. We must never bypass the law and come straight to the gospel. To do so is to contradict the plan of God in biblical history.

No man has ever appreciated the gospel until the law has first revealed him to himself. It is only against the inky blackness of the night sky that the stars begin to appear, and it is only against the dark background of sin and judgment that the gospel shines forth.”



**John Stott**





“Not until the law has bruised and smitten us will we admit our need of the gospel to bind up our wounds.

Not until the law has arrested and imprisoned us will we pine for Christ to set us free.

Not until the law has condemned and killed us will we call upon Christ for justification and life.

Not until the law has driven us to despair of ourselves will we ever believe in Jesus.

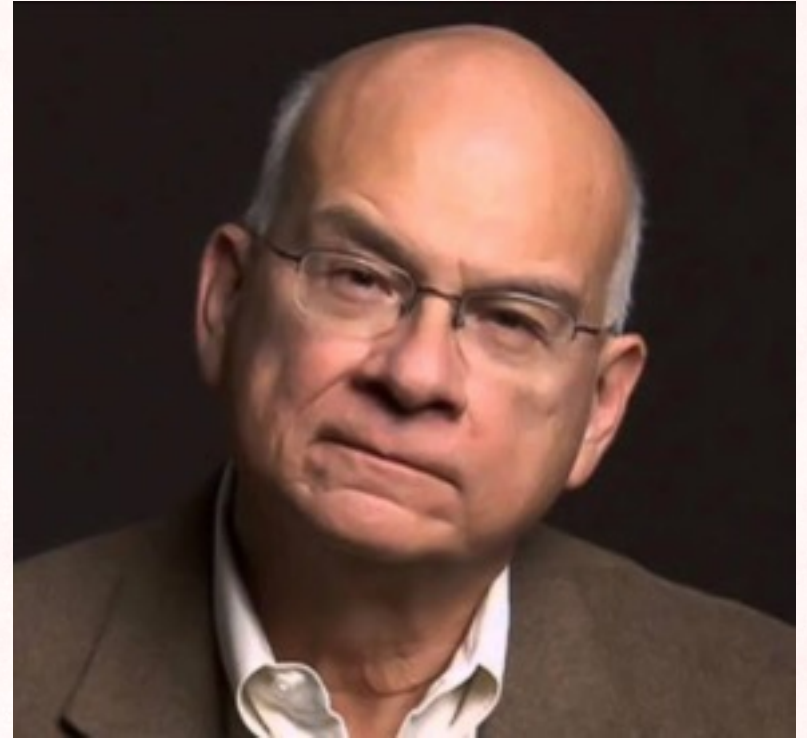
Not until the law has humbled us even to hell, will we turn to the gospel to raise us to heaven.”

- John Stott



“The trial is over. The verdict is in. But every day you feel yourself being sucked back into the courtroom.

All I can tell you is that we have to re-live the gospel every time we pray. We have to re-live it every time we go to church. We have to re-live the gospel on the spot and ask ourselves what we are doing in the courtroom. We should not be there. The court is adjourned.”



**Timothy Keller**



"It's a mind-blowing concept that the God who created the Universe might be looking for company, a real relationship with people, but the thing that keeps me on my knees is the difference between Grace and Karma.



**Bono**



You see, at the center of all religions is the idea of Karma.

You know, what you put out comes back to you; an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, or in physics, every action is met by an equal or opposite one. It's clear to me that Karma is at the very heart of the universe. I'm absolutely sure of it.



**Bono**



And yet, along comes this idea called Grace to upend all that 'As you sow, so will you reap' stuff.

Grace defies reason and logic.

Love interrupts, if you like, the consequences of your actions, which in my case is very good news indeed, because I've done a lot of stupid stuff."



**Bono**

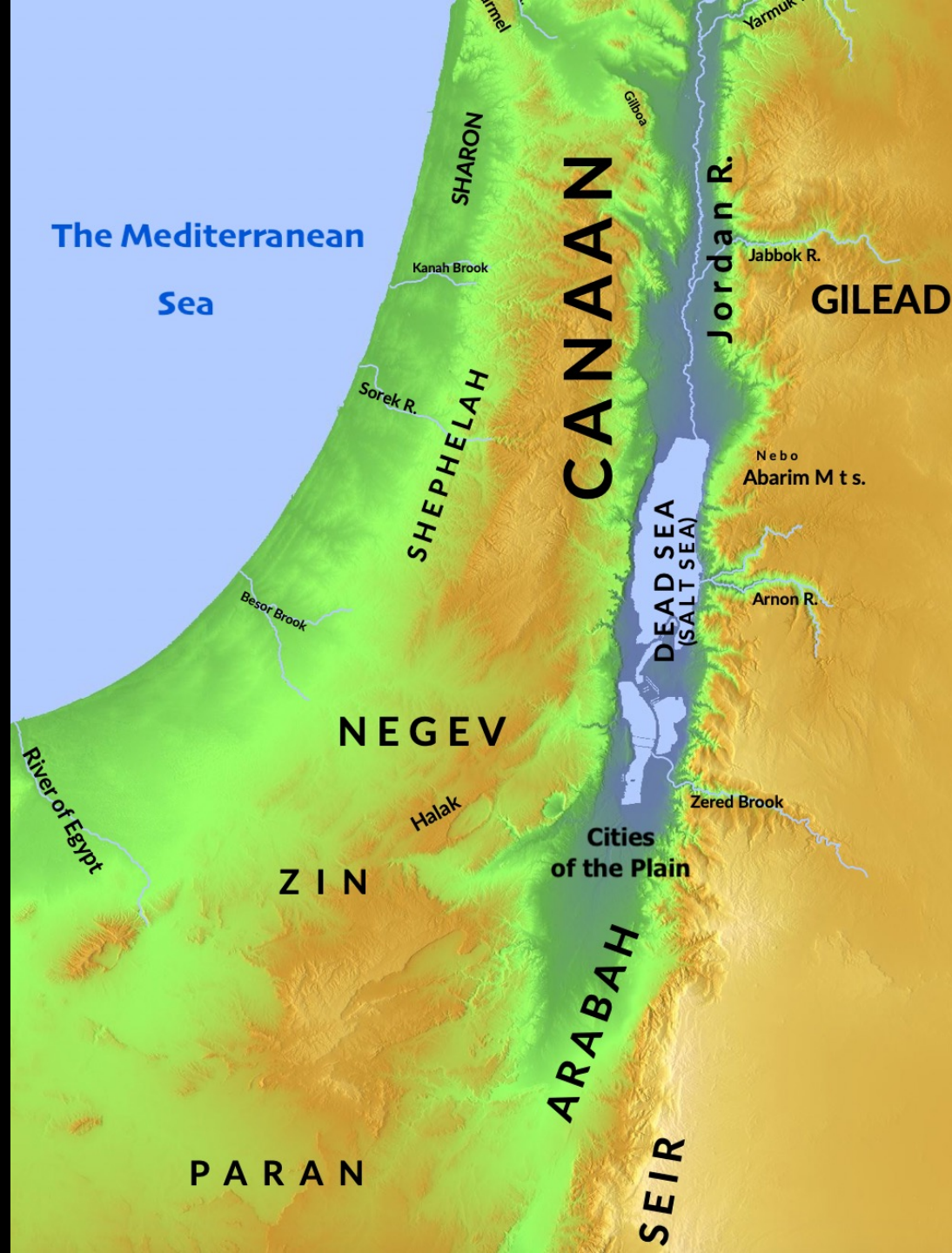




# Galatians 3:27-29

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.





# Romans 4:13

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.



# The Most Important Question:

Law or Promise?

Merit or Grace?

Works or Faith?

Slavery or Freedom?

Striving or Rest?

Pride or Humility?

Self or Christ?





## Exodus 33:18

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But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.”



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## 2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God...





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