

Galatians 2:15-21

Defining Terms - Works of the Law

The Alternative

1. Paul's opponents in Galatia were (implicitly or explicitly) working with an alternative account of

_____ [justification] _____.

- a. The promised verdict and deliverance would come about through __ [Torah] _____

- i. Israel's _____ [Faithfulness] _____

- ii. The Nation's __ [Obedience] _____

- b. To the teachers, it is this that marks one out as an _____ [heir] _____

Flesh, Torah, and the Drama of Redemption -

Act 1 (Gen 1-3)

1. Adam and even created as _____ [flesh] _____

2. The judgment for their sin was _____ [exile from the garden] _____

- a. The result (Rom. 5:12-14)

- b. Humanity had now become _____ [mortal flesh] _____

Act 2 (Gen 3-11)

1. The state of humanity after the fall is living in fear of _____ [death] _____

2. What are the manifestations of sinful flesh?

- a. In Individuals

- b. In Societies and powers

3. The elemental "physics" of the fleshly world:

- a. _____ [Temple] _____

- b. _____ [Purity] _____

- c. _____ [Sacrifice] _____

4. Ultimately, flesh is _____ [self-destructive] _____

5. In order to redeem creation, the Creator must _____ [destroy flesh] _____

Act 3 (Gen 12-Mal 4)

1. In the context of sin and judgment, God calls ____ [Abraham] _____ to be the vessel of salvation.
2. Beginning with ____ [Circumcision] _____, God begins a war against flesh and marks out a new humanity in contrast to the rest of the nations.
3. Combined with ____ [Torah] _____ which followed after, this creates a mirror image of the elemental “physics” of the Gentile world.
 - a. ____ [Sanctuary] _____
 - b. ____ [Purity] _____
 - c. ____ [Sacrifice] _____
4. Torah was accommodated to a ____ [fleshly people] _____, regulating their existence in such a way as to serve as an ____ [anti-flesh training] _____ and prepare the way for Yahweh to ____ [recreate humanity] _____

What Torah Could Not Do

1. Since it was given to a fleshly people, Torah could not ____ [overcome flesh] _____
 - a. Torah itself is spiritual, but in a fleshly people it ____ [divides and kills] _____
 - b. Torah actually served to ____ [provoke] _____ sin
 - i. In individuals
 - ii. In Israel as a whole
2. Rather than bringing life, Torah brought ____ [curse] _____ and ____ [death] _____.
3. The Torah created a ____ [roadblock] _____ to fulfillment of the promise.

The Temporary Nature of the Law

1. Why have Torah at all in this case?
 - a. It ____ [provokes] _____ sin and ____ [exposes] _____ for what it is
 - b. The case against sin is manifest in its ability to turn Torah into ____ [an instrument of death] _____
 - c. It was a preparatory phase in God’s ____ [war] _____ against flesh
2. What justification required was something Torah could not do - ____ [release from sin, death, and flesh] _____