

1. This passage begins with a legal argument and ends with a heartfelt cry to “Abba! Father!” How does this progression mirror the course of Scripture?
2. Explain how Paul uses the example of legal contracts in his case against the continuing authority of the law.
3. What “offspring” was to come as told in verse 19?
4. Verse 11 says the law does not justify; verse 21 that it does not give life. The law is called a jailer, then a tutor/guardian/schoolmaster (variant translations of the Greek word *paidagógos*, a boy's guardian or tutor, a slave who had charge of the life and morals of the boys of a family, not strictly a teacher). What then is the law’s purpose in God’s plan of salvation?
5. Does your answer for question 4 also apply to Gentiles?
6. Does verse 28 erase all distinctions between Jew and Greek, slave and free, male and female?
7. Verse 4:3 says we were slaves to the elements/basic principles/elemental spirits (variant translations of *stoicheion*). How does legalism agree with these elements in a way that grace through faith does not?
8. How does verse 4:4 encapsulate all Scripture?
9. What are some implications of the Christian being a son of God?
10. What can we learn from this portion about:

Salvation

The Church

Christ

Our Christian walk