*Friday, October 25, 2013*

**Not of Works**

Romans 4:13-15 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. 14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: 15 Because the law worked wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. (KJV)

I want to conclude this week on the same theme Paul was referring to throughout this chapter, our justification is now by faith without the works of the law. I see so many Christians today who think works are still in play and end up in transgression instead of justification.

Galatians 3:23-25 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. (KJV)

When we were children we needed more structure in our lives, someone to tell us what to do or there would be no order. The old law was a way of keeping some structure for the people until Christ came along and put an end to it. I see many who still hang onto bits and pieces of the law thinking they are still in play.

Galatians 3:26-29 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (KJV)

That outdated water baptism ritual is no longer in play, at least for those that desire to grow and mature in the realm of the Spirit. The only baptism that our Lord acknowledges today is spiritual, where you put on Christ and leave Him on all the time, not just on Sundays and holidays.

Galatians 4:3-5 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: 4 But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. (KJV)

The old law and its rituals are bondage, and not the liberty that our Lord would have you operating in today. If you are involved with those that think the law is in play then it is time to exit and move onto maturity in Christ.

Galatians 3:10-12 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continues not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. 11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, the just shall live by faith. 12 And the law is not of faith: but, the man that doeth them shall live in them. (KJV)

Ever hear the question asked, “Why do bad things happen to good people”? Well according to the Bible even those that believe in God, yet seek their justification through the law, get the whole package which includes the curse. So if you decide to live by the law then you will end up in a bad place.

Dearly loved, walk by faith in the freedom you have been given in Christ and not in the letter of the law. God bless and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.