



# Daily Reflections

**October 7, 2016**

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## Scripture

### **Galatians 3: 7-14**

Brothers and sisters:

Realize that it is those who have faith who are children of Abraham.

Scripture, which saw in advance that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, foretold the good news to Abraham, saying, Through you shall all the nations be blessed.

Consequently, those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham who had faith.

For all who depend on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, Cursed be everyone who does not persevere in doing all the things written in the book of the law.

And that no one is justified before God by the law is clear, for the one who is righteous by faith will live.

But the law does not depend on faith;  
rather, the one who does these things will live by them.  
Christ ransomed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us,  
for it is written, Cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree,  
that the blessing of Abraham might be extended  
to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus,  
so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Paul is a scholar when it comes to his knowledge of the Old Testament which he uses to win over the weak-kneed Galatians. The Galatians have a very difficult time giving up on their observance of the old Law. Using scripture, Paul demonstrates that their position is futile:

1. As the Law itself states, "Cursed be everyone who does not persevere in doing ALL the things written in the book of the Law" (Dt. 27: 26). Paul questions, "Has anyone ever obeyed ALL of the Law?" No. Therefore, ALL are guilty of sin under The Law.

2. The Law states, "Cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree"(Dt. 21:23). Jesus, however, hung on a tree and was not cursed. Therefore, by His death on the cross, He broke forever the bondage imposed by the Law.

Paul wants the Galatians to know and accept that salvation apart from the Old Law was won by Jesus Christ and the Galatians are, therefore, free from being bound by it once and for all.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Why do so many department stores display their clothing on mannequins? Because clothes look so much better on a mannequin than draped over a hanger. Mannequins of different sizes and shapes make the same dress look different as do a variety of accessories like a bright scarf or a bold piece of jewelry. The mannequins help shoppers release their imagination as they picture that same piece of clothing on themselves.

As part of our baptismal rite, we were all given a white garment to wear - a robe or a stole that signifies the fact that we have "put on Christ" (Romans

13:14). But that doesn't mean that we will all look exactly alike. Jesus' love is embodied differently in each of us because we are all unique creations of his love. Under that white garment, we retain our gender, our age, our life experiences, our outlook.

--"For you are all one in Christ Jesus," Streets of Gold blog, October 13, 2012, <http://olivyaz.blogspot.com>.

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## **Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Through Your death and resurrection You have set me free from sin and given me a new life in You. May I show You my gratitude by living this new life faithfully. Amen.

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