

Guarding the Gospel of Grace

Preserving Liberty in Christ



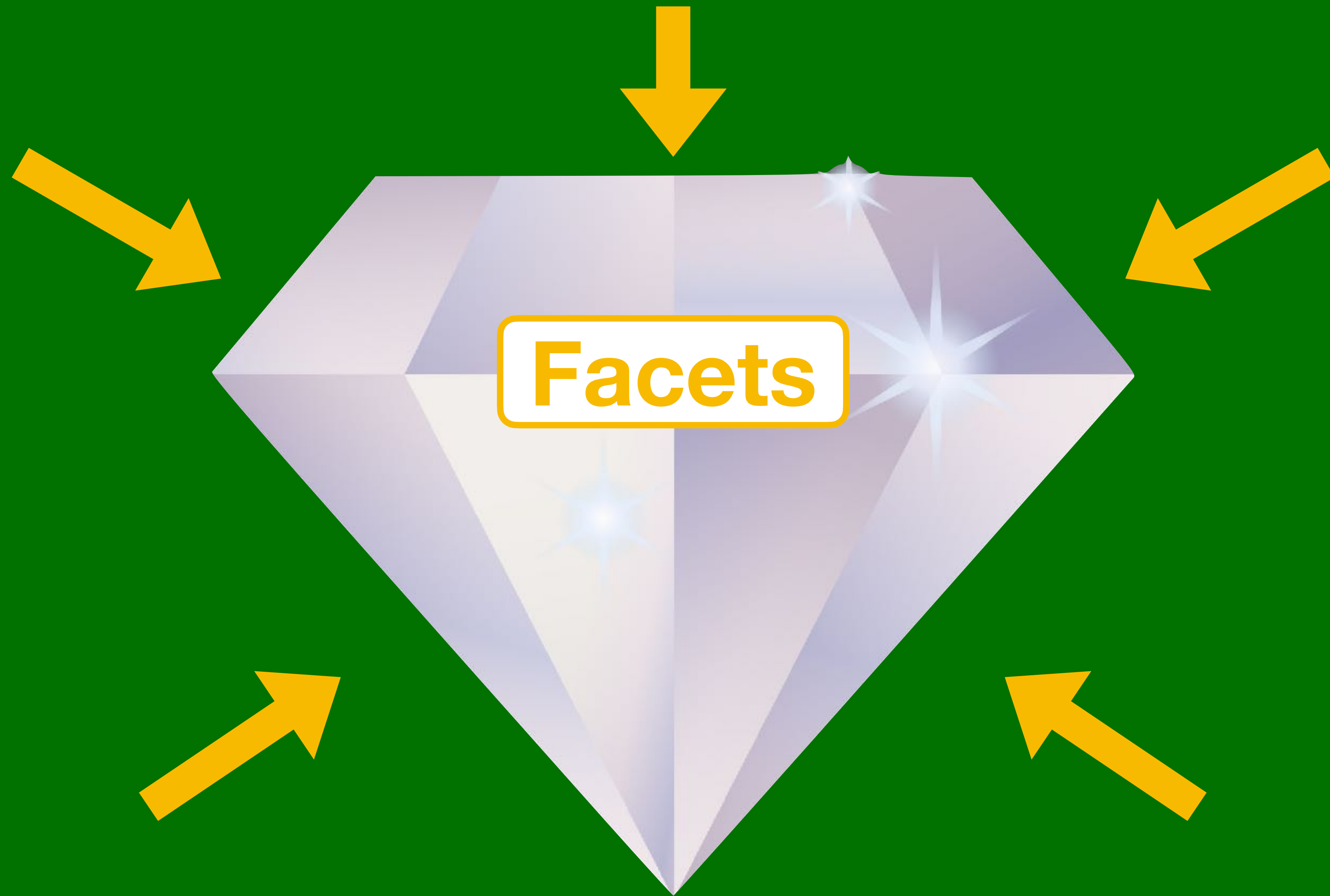
The Book of Galatians

1-2 The Gospel of Grace **Defended**

➔ 3-4 The Gospel of Grace **Explained**

5-6 The Gospel of Grace **Applied**





Paul's 'Facets' in Galatians

- 3:1-5 **Begin** in the **Spirit**; **finish** in the **Flesh**?
- 3:6-14 **Abraham** was **Blessed**; **Law** brings **Curse**
- 3:15-22 **Promise** came **First**; **Law** came **After**
- 3:22-29 **Law** was a **Schoolmaster** for **Minors**
- 4:1-7 **Grace** is **Adoption** as **Sons**
- 4:8-11 **Law** is a return to **Beggarly Elements**
- 4:11-20 **Law** is **Divisive** and **Hurtful**
- 4:21-31 **Ishmael** pictures **Law**; **Isaac** pictures **Grace**

Galatians 4:21-31



“Allegory”

- Literally = to **say something else**
- Allegory = to use a fictional **story** to **illustrate** a broader **meaning** (Pilgrim’s Progress)
- Type = to use a historical **character** or **event** to **illustrate** a broader **meaning** (today’s text)
- (Illustration)

Galatians 4:21-31

A. An **Old Testament Illustration** 21-27

B. A **New Covenant Parallel** 28-31



A **timeline** for the life of **Abraham**

- <75 - God **calls** Abraham with a **promise**
- 85 - Abraham marries **Hagar**, gets a **child** by **flesh**
- 86 - **Ishmael** is born; **Sarah** gets jealous
- 99 - God **promises** a son by **Sarah**
- 100 - **Isaac** is born; **Ishmael** gets jealous
- +/-103 - **Ishmael** mocks **Isaac**; **Ishmael** cast out

Galatians 4:21-31

A. An **Old Testament Illustration** 21-27

- Comparing **Ishmael** to **Isaac**
- Comparing **Hagar** to (**Sarah**)
- Comparing **Flesh** to **Promise**
- Comparing **Sinai** to **Jerusalem**



A. An Old Testament Illustration

- Comparing **Ishmael** to **Isaac** 22
 - **Ishmael** was son to a **slave woman** Gen 16:1-4
 - **Isaac** was son to a **free woman** Gen 21:1-3

A. An Old Testament Illustration

- Comparing **Hagar** (Agar) to (**Sarah**) 22-23
 - **Hagar** was a **slave woman** Gen 16:1-4
 - **Sarah** was a **free woman** Gen 11:29

A. An Old Testament Illustration

- Comparing **Flesh** to **Promise** 23
 - **Ishmael** was born by **the flesh** Gen 16:1-4
 - **Isaac** was born by **a promise** Gen 18:10-14

A. An Old Testament Illustration

- Comparing **Sinai** to **Jerusalem** 24-26
 - **Sinai** (and Jerusalem below) is in **Bondage**
 - **Jerusalem** (above) is **Free**

Isaiah 54:1

**Rejoice, thou barren, that bearest not;
break forth and cry, thou that travailest not:
for the desolate hath many more children
than she which hath an husband.**

Green parallels Sarah

Red parallels Hagar

Galatians 4:21-31

A. An Old Testament Illustration 21-27

B. A New Covenant Parallel 28-31



B. A New Covenant Parallel

- **Christians, like Isaac, are children of Promise**
- **Christians, like Isaac, are Persecuted**
- **Christians, like Isaac, are children of Freedom**

More Parallels

- **Ishmael** was born by **the Flesh**
(no reference to God)
 - **Sinners** are born by **the Flesh**
- **Isaac** was born by **God's Spirit**
(God was active in the whole story)
 - **Christians** are born by **God's Spirit**

More Parallels

- **Hagar** gave birth to a **Slave**
 - **The Law** gives birth to **Bondage**
- **Sarah** gave birth to a **Freeman**
 - **Grace** gives birth to **Freedom**

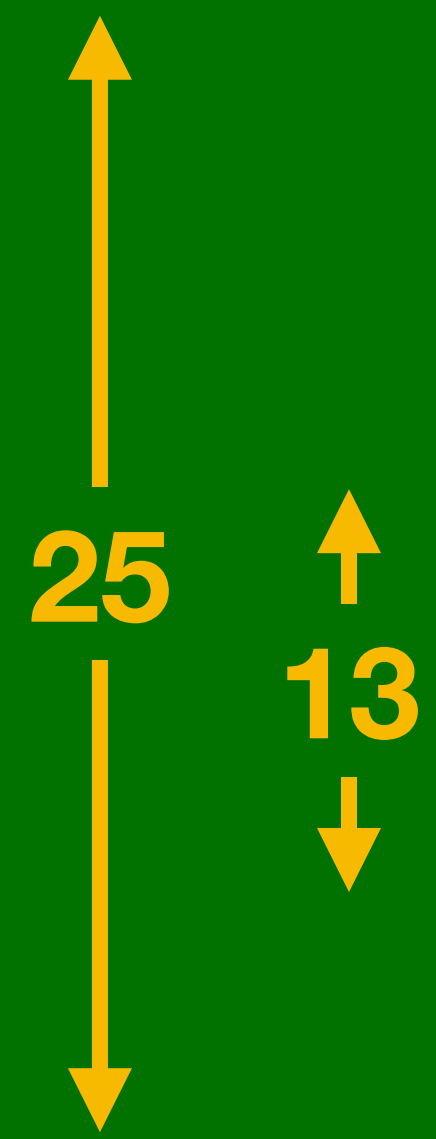
More Parallels

- **God** started and ended with **Grace**
- **God** started with **Promise** and ended with **Isaac**
 - **God** gave grace to **Adam and Eve**
 - **God** gave grace to **Abraham**

More Parallels

- **God** inserted **Law** into His plan for **Grace**
- **Ishmael** was inserted into **God's** plan for **Isaac**
 - **God** inserted the **Law** under **Moses**

A **timeline** for the life of **Abraham**

- 
- The diagram features a vertical orange line on the left side. A large double-headed arrow spans from the top to the bottom of the list, with the number '25' positioned to its left. A smaller double-headed arrow is positioned between the third and fourth items of the list, with the number '13' positioned to its left.
- <75 - God **calls** Abraham with a **promise**
 - 85 - Abraham marries **Hagar**, gets a **child** by **flesh**
 - 86 - **Ishmael** is born; **Sarah** gets jealous
 - 99 - God **promises** a son by **Sarah**
 - 100 - **Isaac** is born; **Ishmael** gets jealous
 - +/-103 - **Ishmael** mocks **Isaac**; **Ishmael** cast out

A **timeline** for the life of **Promise**

- +/- 6000 BC - God **Promises** to **Adam/Eve**

- +/- 4000 BC - God **Promises** to **Noah**

- +/- 1900 BC - God **Promises** to **Noah**

- +/- 1500 BC - God gives **Law** to **Moses**

- +/- 30 AD - **Jesus** fulfills the **Law**

- +/- 50 AD - Paul preaches **Promise** to **Galatians**

6050

1530

More Parallels

- **Hagar** was a **Slave**
- **The Law** was a **Servant**
 - It was a **Mirror** to show us our sin
 - It was a **Monitor** to lead us to Christ
 - It was never meant to be a **Mother!**

More Parallels

- **Isaac** brought **Laughter**
 - **Christians** have **Joy**
- **Ishmael** persecuted **Isaac**
 - **Legalists** persecute **Grace-filled Believers**

More Parallels

- **Hagar** was **Cast Out**
 - **Legalism** must be **Cast Out**

Psalm 130:3-4

If thou, Lord, shouldst mark **iniquities**,

O Lord, who shall stand?

But there is **forgiveness** with thee

that thou mayest be feared.

How does all of this **work out**?

- There is only **one solution** to legalism
 - You cannot **change** law or flesh
 - You cannot **compromise** with law or flesh
 - You must **cast out** law (works) and flesh

How does all of this **work out**?

- There is no **work** required to earn **salvation**
- There is no **work** required to be **sanctified**
- There is no **work** required to gain **growth**
(Obedience, but not work)
(We obey, but God gives growth by His grace)

Hymn #349

“Complete in Thee”

...that ev - er
...an tri - um - phant
...low He liv - ed
...weet - est that ev - er was heard
...rus, Sang as they welcomed His birth,
...bor, Tell of the sor - row He bore,
...er, Clear - er than ev - er I see;
D. C. for Chorus
...to earth,
...not.

...the like
...else could