

Everyone is on a life-journey. There are two roads we can travel, one to heaven, the other to hell. To put it in the language of Galatians 3, one road leads to God's blessing; the other road leads to God's curse. The road that leads to Blessing is the road of faith: trusting only in Jesus as your righteousness. The road that leads to the Curse is the road of works – trusting in your own works, even partly, for your righteousness before God.

--In Galatians 3:1-9 Paul speaks of the first road – faith in Christ is the sure pathway to blessing. That's what Abraham discovered. That's what the Galatians discovered. That's what all who believe like Abraham find!

--In Galatians 3:10-14 Paul looks at the opposite road – the works of the Law is the sure pathway to the curse. Only Jesus' work can set us free from that curse. In these verses, the Holy Spirit answers three life-and-death questions for us:

- (1) Why do we need Jesus and His good works?
- (2) What did Jesus do to set sinners free from the curse?
- (3) For what reason did Jesus set us free from the curse of the Law?

Question 1: Why do we need Jesus and His good works? (Galatians 3:10-12 give the reason.)

¹⁰ **For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse. [that is: All who rely on the works of the law are under a curse.]**

1. This verse is the main concern of this text.

It is an absolute truth: **as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse**. *Everyone, anyone*, who relies on his own *law-keeping or personal performance* for acceptance with God is under a curse. *Anyone* who hopes or thinks God will accept him on the basis of his own background, honest character, religious customs, efforts at piety and holiness will not be accepted by God, but will be curled and are under God's curse right now. **Under the curse** means God bans you from His fellowship and devotes you to destruction. *This is an extremely urgent matter for all people on earth, everywhere, in every time period.*

2. Paul defends this absolute statement with 3 quotations from the Old Testament:

a) ^{10b} **for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."** (This is quoted from Deuteronomy 27:26.)

In Deuteronomy, the 12 tribes of Israel were divided in 2 groups, 6 tribes standing on Mt. Gerizim proclaiming the blessings of keeping God's Law, while the other 6 tribes are standing on Mt. Ebal proclaiming the curses of disobeying God's Law. There are 12 curses in that list of curses, and this curse quoted here is #12. It is the *last* one, a *summary* of them all: **Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them**. It's an absolute command: If *anyone* breaks *anyone* of the commandments at *any* time, he is under God's curse. As James says: **Whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of breaking all.** (2:10)

The condition of life, by the law, is perfect, personal, and perpetual obedience. (Matthew Henry). To be righteous in God's sight and accepted by Him we must be fully obedient to God in all things, continually, with our whole self (all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, all our strength). This is what the Lord requires of us before He will approve of us and accept us. Why? Not because God is unkind or unfair – His perfectly good, perfectly kind, and also perfectly holy. He will not and cannot accept anything less than perfect holiness. And He created us to give that to Him! The problem of the curse comes from our side: man chose the way of sin in the Garden of Eden instead of obedience.

Remember that for just one sin God placed Adam and Eve under a curse! So do you want to take the road of your own works when you know that even one sin makes you unworthy of God and unacceptable to Him? How utterly foolish that would be! Are you relying on the law, on your own personal performance (like going to church and doing your personal devotions), to get on God's good side, or to try to stay on God's good side? Are you hoping that by avoiding bad behavior (like getting drunk and doing drugs) will keep you out of trouble with God? Then you are under a curse, because you are not performing perfectly. Far from it! You are a filthy law-breaker in God's sight.

b) The 2nd quotation that proves that **as many as are of the works of the law are under a curse**: ¹¹ **But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."** (This quotation is taken from Habakkuk 2:4.)

Habakkuk is speaking to Israel which has broken the law and is headed for God's curse and destruction. The Babylonian empire is coming to destroy God's covenant people. But the prophet holds out the hope of God's work of salvation that will set His people free from this curse. Now Habakkuk puts before Israel two ways: *What will they do with this promise of being saved by God's work – a) will they scoff and perish? or b) will they believe and be saved?* Will they live by faith? Then Habakkuk says: The just shall live by faith. This means: If you want to be just or righteous before God, you must live by faith. If you believe in the work that God will do to save you from all your disobedience, then God will justify you. He will consider you righteous and call you sinless! The prophet is pointing ahead to God's work of sending Jesus to save us by our sins by His perfect work. Our works condemn us, but faith in God's work justifies us; as the hymn says it: *Man's work faileth; Christ's availeth. He is all our righteousness!*

c) The 3rd quotation that proves that **as many as are of the works of the law are under a curse:** ¹² **Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them."** (This quotation is from Leviticus 18:5.)

Here Paul says that the way of the law and the way of faith are contrary to each other. The law says – *You do* and you shall live. Faith says: Believe in what Jesus has done for you and you shall live! These two ways are two opposing religions: Law and faith. Do and Done (this is, save yourself by Doing, or by believing what Jesus has Done for you.) These two religions can't be mixed together. They can't live together. *You will more easily unite fire and water, than reconcile these two statements, that men are justified by faith, and that they are justified by the law.* (John Calvin)

The Law is not of faith. Relying on the law is *unbelief*. It is the sin of not trusting that Jesus' work is good enough to justify you. The way of faith really hurts man's pride. We want to do it ourselves, at least partly. I recently read about someone who heard the Gospel of being saved by Jesus' works, not our own. He was offended by the idea and responded, "I refuse to get to heaven on the back of someone else!" Taking the way of faith meant giving up totally on His "good" character and "good" deeds and he was not willing to give that all up for Jesus.

3. That False Teachers taught justification by law, but Moses did not

After reading these three quotations from the Old Testament, you might think that Paul had a very low view of Moses and the Old Testament. Did Moses disagree with Habakkuk? Did God (through Moses) really teach Israel justification by works in the Old Testament? No He didn't! God doesn't change. He proclaimed the Good News of justification by faith in both the Old Covenant and the New. Paul teaches that Abraham and David are justified the same way we are today: *by faith alone in Jesus Christ*. (see Romans 4) What Paul is doing here in Galatians 3 is quoting Moses the way the false teachers (ab)used him. He is using sarcasm. He quotes Moses against them. *If it's true that you get saved or stay saved by the law, then listen to what the law demands: perfection or curse.*

So we return to the main truth of the matter in Galatians 3:10 - **For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse.** Why? Because we haven't kept the law. Not one of us. **No one is righteous, no, not one. There is no one who does good...All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.** (Romans 3:9,12,23) **If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth in us.** (1 John 1:8) If we look carefully at our lives, it should be obvious that we are liars, deceivers, haters, gossips, adulterers, proud, unkind, and rude. No, we dare not depend on our own performance! We dare not rely on our works or character! For even one sin is enough to condemn us, because it is an assault on the good, glorious and holy God!

This is why we all need Jesus and His perfect work. Our works put us under a curse. If you are not a Christian, you need Jesus to save you from God's curse. If you are a Christian you still need Jesus every day to save you from God's curse. Sometimes Christians are tempted to forget God's grace and go back to the Law. We are tempted to try to stay on God's good side by trying to do everything right. Even though it is good to want to do everything right for God's glory, if we do this out of fear of losing our salvation then we are falling into the prison of justification by law, the road that leads to God's curse, not to God's blessing!

So we need Jesus and His works to set us free from the curse of our works. That brings us to second question:

Question 2: What did Jesus do to set sinners free from the curse? (Galatians 3:13 gives the answer.)

God in His abounding grace has provided for sinners the perfect remedy for the curse of the Law: the curse of Christ. ¹³ **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree").**

1. The Extreme Cost of Redemption

This is one of the most powerful and glorious texts of Scripture. It is the simple Gospel of salvation: Christ redeemed us from the curse that was upon us. To redeem means to *buy someone's freedom from prison or slavery*. People would do that to slaves – go to

the slave-auction at the marketplace and as an act of mercy buy a slave at the going price and set him free from his chains! That's what Jesus did for us.

But how? With money? No, not all the money in the world could buy us. We were under a *curse* of God's *eternal* wrath – and the only price that could buy our freedom is that: *to come under the curse of the Law in our place and take the eternal wrath of God upon yourself in the place of the sinner*. Of course, in order to pay that price you must be a true man to stand in our place, but also fully God to carry that infinite load! That's exactly what Jesus, God's eternal Son did for us by becoming a man and going to cross. He paid the whole price – He redeemed us by becoming a curse for us. As Peter says: **You were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.** (I Peter 1:18-19)

2. The Horrible and Glorious Curse of Jesus Christ

The Bible states it in the strongest possible terms. He didn't just *face* the curse. He *became* the curse.¹³ **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.** By being brought out of the temple, out of the holy city (Jerusalem) to the garbage dump outside the city called Gehenna, Jesus became a disgraced, defiled thing. Rubbish. And He was crucified – hanged on a tree – which according to Jewish law means you are cursed. Here is another quote from Deuteronomy: **Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.** (Deuteronomy 21:23) But you see how God turned this law of death for sinners into the law of life for sinners – *through Christ Jesus!* It proves that Jesus' death was no ordinary death. His death was a curse – a curse on behalf of all His people. On the cross Jesus was completely cut off from God, put in the anguish of total hell.

He stepped into our separation from God's favour and fellowship. He stepped into our destruction of body and soul. **For God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us** (II Corinthians 5:21). He who is forever blessed became a curse for us, in order to remove the curse from us and bring us into God's blessing! He bought our *freedom* with His *misery*!

What indescribably good news for every accursed sinner who believes in Jesus! He bore the curse of the Law as if He had personally committed all our sins before God. He bore all the curses of the covenant as an outlaw! It's His work and His work alone that sets us free from God's curse and brings us into God's blessing! It's the power and virtue of His cross, of Christ crucified, that sets us free.

Luther described the curse this way: *Our merciful Father, seeing us to be oppressed and overwhelmed with the curse of the law, and that we could never be delivered from that curse in our own strength, sent His only Son into the world and laid upon Him all the sins of His people, saying to His Son: You be Peter that denier. You be Paul the persecutor, blasphemer, and violent oppressor. You be David that adulterer and murderer. You be that sinner that ate the fruit in Paradise, that thief which hanged on the cross. You be that Sinner that has committed all the sins of all Your people! See that You pay and satisfy for them all!*

3. Faith in Christ is the sure road out of God's eternal curse, into God's eternal blessing

When a sinner believes in Jesus Christ, God performs a great miracle through His Spirit. He unites you to Jesus Christ so you become one with Him. The Bible's favorite expression for this is: You are *in Christ*. **There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.** (Romans 8:1) Thus, when you believe in Jesus you are united to Jesus the Crucified One, Jesus the Accursed One. This means that what He did on the cross becomes yours, as if you did it yourself. When the accursed sinners looks to the Curse of Christ for His salvation, he is set completely free from the curse of the law.

Paul declares in Galatians 2 that this is the reason he believed in Jesus: **Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.**

This is the Gospel! This is the perfect refuge God has provided for sinners! Don't think you can earn your way out of God's disapproval by trying harder, doing better, tithing more, getting busier with kingdom work! Christ has earned your way out of God's disapproval. He has paid the price for sinners. Run to Him. Trust in Him. This is the way of faith. This is the way of blessing! (v. 14) Take it! The *world* may despise you, but *God* will bless you. Your father and mother may *forsake* you, but the LORD will *take* you in!

This is very important for a non-Christian, and also for a Christian. No matter how long you've been a Christian, and how hard you try to serve Christ every day, faith always looks to Jesus Christ only for your justification, and to be set free from the curse that we deserve from the daily sins and weaknesses that frustrate us. His finished work on the cross removes the whole curse from us for past, present and future sins. In Christ you may be totally sure there is no sin, no curse, and no hell left for you. Jesus redeemed you!

Question 3: For what reason did Jesus set us free from the curse of the Law? (Galatians 3:14)

Sometimes we cut God's glorious salvation in half: Jesus died on the cross to redeem me from my sin, from the curse of the law, and from the hell of fire. And we ignore or at least play down the rest of the good news. What is the rest of the Good News? It is found in verse 14: ¹³ **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),** ¹⁴ **that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

From this verse I want to point out three things about the salvation Jesus accomplished for sinners on the cross:

- 1. His purpose was blessing**
- 2. His blessing is the blessing of Abraham**
- 3. The blessing of Abraham is the Holy Spirit**

1. His purpose was to *bless* believers

Galatians 3:13-14 teaches that when you believe in Jesus Christ you are redeemed from the *curse* of God and you receive the *blessing* of God. In fact, it's even better and stronger than that. Jesus redeems sinners from the curse for the very purpose **that the blessing of Abraham** might come upon them. This is the purpose of God the Father in sending His Son, and this is the purpose of God the Son in coming to earth and going to the cross for sinners: that sinners might be restored to blessing. The reason God removes the curse from us is to restore blessing to us!

Our family likes to play the Game of Monopoly now and then. In Monopoly you sometimes draw a card that says "Get out of Jail Free." This is your ticket to get out of jail free of charge if you are sent there. Some think of salvation only or primarily in this way: It is your ticket to get rid of your sins and "Stay out of Hell." This is a very low view of salvation and does not even come close to understanding the real purpose of the cross of Christ. Jesus died on the cross (and rose again!) to bring us into God's blessing. Jesus truly has big plans for those countless sinners for whom He died and who put their trust in Him.

But what does it mean to have **the blessing of Abraham come upon** you in Christ Jesus? We'll wait for a moment to look into the meaning of 'the blessing of Abraham,' but for now let's try to understand what it means to be *blessed*, that is, to receive God's *blessing* or to have His blessing come upon you. It means that the good things God has promised will fall down upon your life. To be blessed is to have your life filled with the riches of God's presence, God's peace, and God's plenty.

When you think of blessing, think of the Garden of Eden, the place of great blessedness. There Adam and Eve walked and talked with God, enjoyed harmony with each other, and with all creation. That's how God often describes the blessings of salvation in the Bible – as a return to the Garden of Eden. (Isaiah 51:2-3) ² **Look to Abraham your father, and to Sarah *who bore you*; for I called him alone, and blessed him and increased him.** ³ **For the Lord will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places; He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.**

To be blessed means that you are brought back *to God and His Garden*, and you know true, deep and lasting music, joy, thanksgiving and fulfillment in your life. It means God has restored you to your created purpose. You are who you're supposed to be, and life is as it's supposed to be. It's true that believers in this life receive just the beginning of the blessings of salvation; but when Jesus comes again He will take give us perfect bodies and bring us into a completely renewed creation where there is no worry or frustration, no pain and sorrow, no disability or hindrances to serving, and no sin! Just perfect peace and rest in God and with each other.

I'm reminded of Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Lost Son where when the sinner repented and came to Jesus He was accepted and embraced by God again as a child of God. All his sins and all his rebellion were cleared away from God's sight. But there's more there! That lost son who returned was brought into the Father's house to enjoy the Father's blessings of joy and happiness and eating and drinking and music and dancing. This is what it means to receive God's blessing. This is why Jesus went to hell – not to just to get us out of hell, but to get us back to God and His glory. This is why Jesus became a curse for us – not just to remove the curse from us but to bring back God's blessing upon us.

A Christian is not yet in heaven or the new creation, but he already has a real beginning of the blessing of God upon His life. He sees His family and says, "I am so richly blessed!" By that He means, this is the gift of God I may enjoy for His glory. He goes to his work and says, "I am so richly blessed!" By that he means, this is the gift of God I may enjoy for His glory. I feel His pleasure at work because I am serving Him. Jesus brought us into this! How *empty* life is when you're under the law; how *full* in Christ!

2. His blessing is the blessing of Abraham

¹³ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), ¹⁴ **that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

Our text identifies this blessing in a specific way: as the blessing of Abraham. Clearly this refers to God’s promise made to Abram in Genesis 12:1-3: ¹ **Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

a) The Lord promised a 2-fold blessing in His covenant made with Abram.

--First, He would **bless Abraham** himself and **make his name great**. He forgave all Abraham’s sins and declared Him righteous (Romans 4:1-8). He called Abraham His friend. (see Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23) He was with Abraham wherever he went, gave special protection to him, and prepared a heavenly city for him! (see Hebrews 11:16) He also was the God of Abraham’s household. Abraham the believer was a very, very rich man living in fellowship with God! Even though he lived 2000 years before Jesus died on the cross, all these blessings were his because of what Jesus did for Abraham on the cross! This life of blessing he received by faith in Jesus. (Galatians 3:5-8)

--Second, God promised to bless all the families of the earth through Abraham. No, not through Abraham himself, but through Abraham’s seed, Jesus. **In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed** (Genesis 12:3) means **in your Seed** all the families of the earth shall be blessed. (see Genesis 22:18 and Galatians 3:16) That seed is Jesus Christ. One day a special Son would be born to Abraham – many generations later – and that Son is Jesus. And by His accursed death on the cross, Jesus would purchase the blessings of God for Jews *and* Gentiles from all the families (tribes) on earth. In other words, the blessings of God that Abraham enjoyed personally as a believer in Christ (forgiveness of sins, friendship with God, and an eternal city with God) would spread over the whole world. Jesus came to fulfill God’s promise of blessing not only to Abraham but to all earth’s families.

(Rev. 5:8-10) ⁸ **Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.”**

b) Like Abraham, we receive the blessings of God’s covenant through faith not by works

This blessing is for all Jews and all Gentiles from all places through all ages who believe in Jesus – for all who reject the road of the works of the law which leads to the *curse*, and take the road of faith in Jesus Christ crucified for sinners which leads to the *blessing*. As Paul writes: (Galatians 3:9) **So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.**

Do you think of your life as a Christian that way? You’re right up there with Abraham, right beside him in privilege and blessing, on equal footing with Him as the friend of God. Jesus said that in the kingdom of God all believers from east and west will be sitting at the table of God with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob! (Matthew 8:11) **Those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham.**

This reminds us that the covenant God made with Abraham, though it is fulfilled, is not an *entirely* new covenant. There is only one covenant of grace which He made with Abraham and His seed as an everlasting covenant. It is a covenant that operates not through the works of the law but through the promise by faith. (see Galatian 3:15-25) God makes His promise of full salvation in Christ, and by faith we receive what He promises. That’s what it means to keep God’s covenant. We take in faith what He gives us in promise through Christ.

Those who believe in Christ like Abraham did become part of Abraham’s household. We become part of the one true family and church of God that He is gathering from all over the world. Isn’t this what we experience as believers? When we meet a true Christian whom we’ve never seen before, we immediately have a strong connection because are in the same covenant family and enjoy the same blessings!

God has certainly not set that covenant with its blessings aside. In fact, the covenant made God with Abraham is more fully experienced now than ever before. With the coming of Jesus the blessings of salvation come to greater expression across all the tribes of the earth. **Remember: Jesus died for this very purpose – to bring sinners out of the curse into the blessing of Abraham!**

3. The Blessing of Abraham is the Holy Spirit

But we must focus on 'the blessing of Abraham' even more specifically: ¹³ **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us... ¹⁴ that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

Paul is saying here that the blessing of Abraham is **the Holy Spirit**. When you believe in Jesus Christ you receive forgiveness and righteousness (justification), but you also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. In Galatians 2 Paul emphasizes the first gift: by faith in Christ we are *justified*. In Galatians 3 He speaks of a second gift God gives us when we believe: the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 3:2) ² **This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?** His point is that it is not by works but by faith that we receive the Holy Spirit. Now he adds: and this Spirit is the great blessing of Abraham.

Now this might raise a question in your mind. Don't I receive the Holy Spirit before I believe? Otherwise how could I ever believe? The Lord must open my heart or else I will never accept the message of the Gospel. Jesus said that you must be born again by the Spirit of God or else you will never have faith to see and accept the kingdom of Christ. That is true. This is the miracle of regeneration, the mighty work of the divine Spirit.

But here Paul is talking about something a little different than the miracle of regeneration. Here he is talking about receiving the special gift of the *filling* of the Holy Spirit to control our lives and lead us in God's ways, to cause us to grow in the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, etc.), to help us pray, to empower us to witness and to serve the Lord, to testify in our hearts that we are God's children. Above all, He leads us into deeper and deeper fellowship with God and fellow believers.

Paul describes the Spirit's work in believers in Ephesians 3:16-19: I pray to the Father that **He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

This is the special work of the Spirit found only in believers. This is the free gift of the Holy Spirit filling you – a gift you receive only by faith, not by works. *Not* a special gift given to special Christians who have reached a special level of holiness. That is what many Pentecostals teach. This is to make the Spirit a work of the law instead a gift of grace receive by faith. Jesus died on the cross not merely to 'get you out of jail free' but to come down upon and fill you with that great blessing of Abraham – the Spirit of God! This is the blessing God wants for you – a life controlled by the Spirit to lead you into a deeper and deeper relations with God and with His church; to lead you into a fuller love for God's commandments and fuller obedience to them. He lives in you to fight against the desires of the flesh and to conquer your sins more and more. (see Galatians 5:16-21)

As believers we have this great blessing of the Spirit and we may and must pray for the Spirit of Christ to control our lives more and more completely – our tongues, our ears, our hands, our eating and drinking, our eyes, yes, even our thoughts and desires. Jesus said to His disciples: (Luke 11:13) ¹³ **if you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!**" The blessing of Abraham, the Holy Spirit, is ours through our union with Christ – ours to enjoy, to ask for daily, and to live by. (Galatians 5:25-26) ²⁵ **Since we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.** ²⁶ **Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.**

Just think: long ago this blessing was promised to Abraham and he received the Spirit by faith. And this blessing of the Spirit it was promised to all the families of earth. The Holy Spirit is the Blessing of all God's covenant blessings. It is by the Spirit that our real fellowship with God and with each other is created and enjoyed. The Holy Spirit is the blessing that allows us to enjoy the joy and music of real life again, life as God created us to live: the full life of peace with God and harmony with one another.

Conclusion

When Jesus died He became a curse not just to get us un-cursed, but to bring us back to a life of blessing! What a good life is found in Jesus Christ! If you are not a Christian, your life really is empty and miserable. You are under a curse already now, and it can only get much worse as you move closer to eternal suffering.

But if you give up on yourself and your own performance, and believe in Jesus Christ for your righteousness before God, you will receive a life of blessing from God now and it can only get much better as you move closer to eternal glory. **Jesus came that we might have life and have it abundantly.** (John 10:10)