

## SESSION 4 ETHICS TEXTS

### The role of the Law

*'For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the **law**. (Rom 3:28)*

and

*Do we then overthrow the **law** by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the **law**.( Rom 3:31)*

*'For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of the law.'" (Gal 3:10)*

and

*'Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.'(Gal 3:13)*

<sup>19</sup> Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring<sup>[i]</sup> would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. <sup>20</sup> Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one.

<sup>21</sup> Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. <sup>22</sup> But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ<sup>[i]</sup> might be given to those who believe.

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. (Gal 3:19-26)

## **Cruciformity**

*'I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.'* ( Rom 12: 1-2)

**2** If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was<sup>[a]</sup> in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*'<sup>9</sup> For you know the generous act<sup>[f]</sup> of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.'* (2 Cor 8:9)

### ***The law of Christ***

*'<sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil<sup>[i]</sup> the law of Christ.'*  
(Gal 6:2)

**8** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit<sup>[a]</sup> of life in Christ Jesus has set you<sup>[b]</sup> free from the law of sin and of death. ( Rom 8:1-2)

*'For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.'* (Gal 5:1)

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters;<sup>[c]</sup> only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence,<sup>[d]</sup> but through love become slaves to one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself (Galatians 5: 13-14)