

## **How the curse is turned into a blessing**

**"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'), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith" (Galatians 3:13, 14).**

The curse of the law, all the curse that ever was or ever can be, is simply because of sin. This is powerfully illustrated in Zechariah 5:1-4 (KJV). The prophet saw a "flying roll." Then the Lord said to him: "This is the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth." That is, this roll represents all the curse that is upon the face of the whole earth.

What is the cause of this curse? Here it is: "For

everyone that stealeth shall be cut off as on this side according to it; and everyone that sweareth shall be cut off as on that side according to it" (vs. 3). That is, the roll is the law of God, and one commandment is cited from each table, showing that both tables of the law are included in the roll.

Everyone that stealeth [everyone who transgresses the law in the things of the second table] shall be cutoff as on this side of the law; and everyone that sweareth [everyone who transgresses in the things of the first table of the law] shall be cut off as on that side of the law.

Thus the heavenly recorders do not need to write out a statement of each particular sin of everyone; but simply to indicate on the roll that pertains to each one the particular commandment which is violated in each transgression.

Unless a remedy shall be found, that roll of the law will remain until the curse shall consume that person and his house, "with its timber and stones." That is, until the curse shall devour the earth in that

great day when the very elements shall melt with fervent heat. For "the strength of sin is the law"(1 Cor. 15:56). [1]

"These are the words of the Lord of Hosts: See, I will rescue My people.... They shall be My people, and I will be their God, in truth and justice.... You ... have been the very symbol of a curse to all the nations; and now I will save you, and you shall become the symbol of a blessing. Courage! Do not be afraid" (Zech. 8:8-13, NEB).

**Note:**

1. Lessons on Faith, pp. 124. 125.