

**Galatians 3:16-** "Seed" is singular here, referring to one person! There are other words that could have been used if referring to only the Israelites as a group.

Greek- "spermati" (singular), the plural would have been "spermasin."  
Where we get our word "sperm."

God deliberately choose this word( instead of the clear plural "spermasin" ) to describe His unfolding plan in Christ! The promise was for anyone, if they had faith like Abraham. Only the "seed" (Christ) could save man. By the way anybody saved in the time before Christ is saved by Christ on credit. Just as you get the benefit of the product you buy, at say, J.C. Penny's before you have paid for it because you put it on a credit card. Faith in the revelation given at the time is the point.

Israel, the Law, the ritual of sacrifice, the sign of circumcision, the physical promises to Israel, prophecy, all pointed to the solution, but was not THE SOLUTION. Only Christ took care of the sin blocking our acceptance and relationship to God.

**Gal. 3:17** Actually 645 years between the promise to Abraham , when he was 75 years old, and the giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai but Paul is reckoning from the years of captivity in Egypt. Actually the last time the promise restated is to Jacob right before he moved to Egypt so the date is correct on that score also.

**Gal. 3:19** "Until the seed would come"

P. 5-6 of. → "Who are the people of God?"

\* Promise not to all physical descendants.

**Romans 9:6** " for they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel."

**Gal. 3:22-** Saying , "well I am better than some people I know," will not help. Saying, "I really have a lot of knowledge about God," will not help either. Saying, "I believe if I try really hard, one more time I can pull out of this mess, I just need more time and I need better circumstances to do it also." None of those things would help.

**Romans 2:12** " For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the law."

**" But the Scripture has shut up all under sin"**

**QUESTION:** So how does the solution work if we cannot pull our way out of this mess?

**Romans 8: 1-8 No condemnation!**

**Gal. 3:23-26** In the Roman Empire every citizen became ward of the state at age 14. A father would choose a **custodian** for the child till then. The child was still under direction from 14-25. The custodian trained the child in ethics, citizenship, specialized task, etc. The custodian could be a household slave, or a paid manager. Like our "life coach" fad today. (More on this in Gal. 4:1-7 next week.)

**Gal. 3:27** "baptized" -- mechanical usage of the word. An example is a blacksmith dipping hot iron in water, or a dyer dipping the cloth into the dye.

The word refers to the introduction of a person or thing into a new environment or into union with something else so as to alter its relationship to its previous environment or condition.

**"Clothed yourself"**

**Question:** What image comes to mind when you think of the word "clothed."

Protection, comfort, power (like the exoskeleton the army is presently testing. Or in the "Alien" movie where the walking forklift was more than a match for the monster)

**EXAMPLE :** O.T. use of the word. Judges 6:34 "So the spirit of the Lord "came" upon Gideon,,," .

Literally, "**CLOTHED**"

So BAPTISM by the Spirit (which water baptism is the picture) is you being put into Christ and the CLOTHING is you putting on the new life in Christ. You are in the new element and the new element is in you, on you , around you. Just amazing!

**Colossians 3: 8- 14** " put aside; lay aside; put on;'

**Gal. 3:28-29** "Heirs according to the promise."

**QUESTION:** Do you really believe this about yourself? Write it out.

**QUESTION:** When are you more likely not to believe it? Write it out.