

Series "No Other Gospel"
"Sons Of God"
Galatians 4:1-11
Study-8

Colossians 2:20-23

Galatians 1-2 – Gospel of Grace Defended (Personal).

Galatians 3-4 – Gospel of Grace Explained (Doctrinal).

The Thought Of The Passage: "Thanks To Jesus Christ, We Are No Longer Slaves But Are Now Sons Of God."

1. Verses 1-3 – Man's Condition Under The Law

2. Verses 4-7 – God's Action Through Jesus

3. Verses 8-11 – Paul's Appeal To Stay Free

1. Verses 1-3 – Man's Condition Under The Law:

Galatians 4:1 – "Now I say," – We now have a change of direction.

Galatians 3:29

Paul now rehearses the same history of the giving of the Law through Moses, and his new condition in Christ. Paul concludes with an appeal to live the Christian life!

Child Is Like A Slave: "as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave"

"slave" – During Paul's day, they believe that there were about 60,000,000 slaves in the Roman empire; That 1/3-1/2 of the Roman Empire was made up of slaves.

"although he is owner of everything," – The heir has great wealth and resources, but it does them little good until they reach an age of maturity. (Utilize it)

Galatians 4:2

A Child Under Supervision: "but he is under guardians and managers"

"guardians" – "over minors or orphans."

"managers" – "literally means house laws, steward."

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

"until the date set by the father." – Roman Law was 14 years of age.

Galatians 4:3

A Child In Bondage: "while we were children, were held in bondage" – that prior to putting our faith in Jesus Christ, we were in bondage.

John 8:33

"under the elemental things of the world." – What do we mean by "elemental things of the world?" – It means the Law. We were under the trustee of Law!

2. Verses 4-7 – God's Action Through Jesus:

Galatians 4:4 – "But" – This is where God steps in. It was a hopeless situation, but God intervened.

"when the fullness of the time came," – Man's bondage lasted 1,300 years.

Verses 4-5 – God Sent His Son: "God sent forth" – literally "to send away from with a commission." God sent His Son from heaven to earth.

"His Son," – This speaks of Jesus being divine. The Son of God always existed.

"born of a woman," – That Jesus was also human. His body came through Mary, which was promised in Genesis 3:15.

John 1:14

"born under the Law," – He was born of a Jewish mother. He came to fulfill the Law not to destroy it, Matthew 5:17.

Galatians 4:5

"so that He might redeem" – "to buy up, ransom; to rescue from loss."

Purpose – To Redeem Us From The Curse Of The Law: "those who were under the Law,"

Purpose – That We Might Be Adopted As Sons: "that we might receive the adoption as sons."

"adoption" – speaks about our privilege, our standings with God.

Galatians 4:6

Verses 6-7 – Confirmation Of Sonship: "Because you are sons,"

Proof – God Sent His Spirit: "God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son"

"into our hearts," – The heart is not speaking about the organ of the body but "The seat of personality, the inner man." The real person that only God sees.

Romans 8:9

"crying, 'Abba! Father!'" – It is the Holy Spirit that is crying out from within us!

The believer also cry's out, Romans 8:15.

"Abba" – This is an Aramaic word that describes the tender calling out from a son to a father; "Daddy, Daddy, Papa, Pops."

Galatians 4:7

Proof – We're Heirs With The Son: "and if a son, then an heir through God."
– Every son of God is also an heir, Romans 8:17.

3. Verses 8-11 – Paul's Appeal To Stay Free:

Galatians 4:8 – "However at that time, when you did not know God," – Paul now changes from speaking about Sonship to Slavery.

Paul wanted to show that "Legalism was no better than Paganism."

"when you did not know God" – word "know" – "mentally aware of, to look at."

Those that worship idols are really worshipping Satan, 1 Corinthians 10:20.

Galatians 4:9

"know God," – "to know through experience, personal knowledge."

Salvation From Man's Perspective: "that you have come to know God," – John 17:3.

Salvation From God's Perspective: "or rather to be known by God,"

2 Timothy 2:19

Turning To Legalism: "how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things,"

"Weak" – That the Law has no power to enable you to accomplish what it commands, or "weak," that it cannot forgive and set you free!

"worthless elemental things" – They cannot provide you with a spiritual inheritance.

A Desire To Be In Bondage: "to which you desire to be enslaved all over again?"

Galatians 4:10

Colossians 2:16-17

Galatians 4:11

Paul's Great Concern: "I fear for you,"

Concerned About A Fruitful Or Fruitless Ministry: "that perhaps I have labored over you in vain."

Application:

1. The Law Is Our Guardian And Manager That Protects Us, Revealing Right And Wrong Until We Come Of Age. When We Are Born Again, We Are Then Liberated And Become Sons Of God.
2. God Sent Jesus So That He Might Redeem Those Who Were Under The Law, That We Might Receive The Adoption As Sons.
3. Once We Were Slaves But Now We Are Sons. How Could A Person That Was Once A Slave That Is Now A Son Ever Say, "Now That I Am A Son, I Wish I Were A Slave Again!"