

Bible Study Series: The Book of Galatians

Chapter 4

Introduction

- A. The Jewish legalists had infiltrated the churches of Galatia and brought with them the false doctrine of legalism.
- B. The Galatians had become obsessed with keeping the Old Testament law, believing that this would find them _____ with God. 4:21
- C. The Galatians falsely believed that they were maturing and advancing in their faith because of their obsession with the law.
- D. In several different ways, Paul will demonstrate in this chapter that true maturity and growth is found in _____, not in keeping a list of laws and rules.

Verses 1-2

- A. In many cultures (both Roman and Jewish), a child would live under the authority of tutors (managers, guardians) and governors (overseers).
- B. Although the child may have been the _____ to all that the father possessed, he was no different than a _____, in that he took orders and was told what to do and when to do it.
- C. At a certain age, a child would pass from childhood to adulthood.
 - No longer would the son be under tutors, but he would deal _____ with the father.

Verse 3

- A. Paul applies this illustration in regards to the Galatians and their fascination with the law.
 - “Even so we (the Jewish nation), when we were children (spiritually), were in bondage under the elements of the world (the law of Moses).”
- B. We learned in Galatians 3:24 that the law was Israel’s schoolmaster (guardian).
 - God declared Israel to be His firstborn _____ in Exodus 4:22.
cf. Hosea 11:1

- God gave Israel the law after He took them by the hand and led them out of Egypt. Jeremiah 31:32
- Though Israel was to be the _____ of the world (Romans 4:13), they were first placed under the tutorage of the law.

Verse 4

- A. But, praise God, the law was never meant to be a _____ fixture.
- Israel was looking for a Messiah to deliver them from the bondage and tyranny of the Roman Empire.
 - Christ did something far _____ - He delivered them from centuries of bondage under the Mosaic law.
 - They were looking for physical deliverance, but Christ came to give them _____ deliverance. They were too blind to see the eternal riches of Christ's deliverance.
- B. There are three statements made about Christ in this verse:
- "God sent forth his Son" – this speaks of Christ's _____, eternally co-existing with the Father from eternity past. John 1:1, 14:9-10
 - "Made of a woman" – this speaks of Christ's _____. God took on flesh (1 Timothy 3:16), so that He could die for our sins (Hebrews 2:9, 14-16).
 - "Made under the law" – this speaks of Christ's _____ identity. Christ was born a Jew, of the seed of Abraham. As a child of Jewish parents, He was born _____ the Old Testament law system. Luke 2:21-24