

# Bible Study Series: The Book of Galatians

## Chapter 4

### Verse 8

- A. The Galatians were ensnared in the trappings of pagan \_\_\_\_\_ before they knew God.
- They were \_\_\_\_\_ to the rules, rites, and requirements of their religion.
- B. Paul says that they “...*did service unto them which by nature are no gods.*”
- C. Psalm 115:3-8 describes the inanimate \_\_\_\_\_ of these gods. They are impersonal, inactive, and the work of men’s hands.
- D. But Jeremiah 10:10-11 contrasts our God with these false gods. Our God is living, active, and powerful:
- Creating the earth by His \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Establishing the world by His \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Stretching out the heavens by His \_\_\_\_\_.

### Verse 9

- A. The Galatians were pagan, idolatrous Gentiles before Paul came and preached the gospel of Jesus Christ to them. cf. Ephesians 2:12
- B. Previously, the Galatians did not know the true God, but now they did know Him. They could now address Him as “*Abba, Father.*” vs. 6
- C. Not only this, they were “*known of God.*” What a blessing to know that we are no longer in an alienated state from God (Colossians 1:21). We are fully \_\_\_\_\_ and known of God.
- He recognizes us as His children and adopted sons (Galatians 3:26, 4:6), and we have full \_\_\_\_\_ into His presence (Ephesians 2:18, 3:12).
- D. Paul was amazed that the Galatians who had experienced the strength and power of God in salvation now desired to return to the \_\_\_\_\_ of dead religious rites and requirements, specifically the Law of Moses.

- E. There is something in mankind that desires to **do something** to be acceptable to God instead of \_\_\_\_\_ in the full acceptance of God through Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:6-7
- F. Any religious system whereby you try to \_\_\_\_\_ acceptance before God (before or after salvation) leaves you weak and spiritually bankrupt. This is why Paul calls it "*weak and beggarly elements.*"
- G. What is the answer to this bondage? 1 Corinthians 1:24 declares, "Christ, the power of God, and the wisdom of God."