

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

October 10, 2021

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Galatians 4:1-7

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: Virginia Grosskurth

Message: *Faithful Service For the Wrong God*
(Galatians 4:8-12)

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

Announcements

Halloween Gospel Tracts from *Berean Bible Society* are available to give out with candy on October 31st. See the pastor if you'd like to order some.

Middlebury, IN Conference: If you would like to attend this conference on Saturday, November 6, please sign the signup sheet on the bulletin table. Pastor Matt Ritchey and Pastor Mark Wright will be the speakers, and transportation will be provided.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

Galatians 4:1-7 *Heirs of God*

Paul begins by comparing being an “heir of God” (Gal.3:29; 4:7) to being an heir of *men* (4:1). A man's boy was already “lord” of his lands and servants, but he wasn't ready to be *in charge* of his lands and servants. He needed to be under “tutors and governors” (4:2) to teach him how to be an adult so he knew *how* to be in charge of them. That continued “until the time appointed of the father” (v.2). After that, he was ready to be about his father's business, as the Lord was at age 12 (Lu.2:42,49). Modern Jews call this a bar mitzvah.

As heirs of God, we were “in bondage” or *servitude* (cf.Ezra 9:9) under the “elements of the world.” The word *element* means *the simplest form of something*, as when Sherlock said, “Elementary, my dear Watson.” In elementary school, I learned that in chemistry, elements are the simplest form of matter that are the building blocks of all *other* forms of matter. For example, water (H₂O) is made up of two atoms of the element hydrogen and one atom of the element oxygen.

The elements in our text refer to *the law*. When the law says, “thou shalt not kill” etc., those are simple rules that are the building blocks “of the world” (4:3). Paul could tell the Galatian Gentiles “we” were under it, for if a Gentile wanted to be saved in time past, he had to learn what the law said about being saved. God put *all mankind* under the law to teach us we couldn't be saved by keeping *even the simplest* of rules.

But “when the fulness of the time was come” (4:4), i.e., when the years were fulfilled that Daniel said must pass before Messiah could come (Dan.9:25), *He came*. That's when “the time appointed of the Father” *to stop treating the Jews as His children* came. It was time to make them His sons and make them the lords of all He owned in the earth

in the kingdom. But they wouldn't have it, so God introduced the mystery.

The Lord *had* to be “made of a woman” (Gal.4:4) because He had to be *kin* to us *to redeem us* (Lev.25:47-49) out of the bondage of sin Adam sold himself into—and us with him, since the children of slaves are slaves too. When we believe, Christ redeems our souls (Gal.3:13), but our bodies will be redeemed at the Rapture (cf.Rom.8:23). That's why Paul said he was *still* “sold under sin” (Rom.7:14). So Christ had to be made a man to redeem men, and made under the law to redeem them that were under the law (Gal.4:4).

He did all that so that we could “receive the adoption of sons” (4:5), the bar mitzvah-type sonship we're talking about. We received it (Rom.8:15) when we got saved, but Jews in the kingdom dispensation won't be sons till they ap-point the Lord their Head in the kingdom (Hos.1:10,11). That's when God will put His Spirit in their hearts (Ezek.36: 27). But He's done that for us *now* (Gal.4:6cf.IICor.1:21,22).

The name “Abba” (4:6) is associated with saying, “not my will, but Thine be done” (Mark14:36; Lu.22:42). When God puts His Spirit in kingdom Jews, they'll be able to say that, just as the Lord could, because the Spirit will “*cause*” them to do His will (Ezek.36:27). Paul could say we have received that Spirit because the Spirit does that “in us” when He fulfills the righteousness of the law “in us” (Rom. 8:3,4).

What do we inherit as God's heirs? Well, we are only His heirs because we are the spiritual seed of Abraham (Gal.3: 29). That means we inherit *the eternal life* that he inherited, but also “the world” (Rom.4:13-16; ICor.3:21,22). We're not going to *live* in the world like kingdom Jews will, but we will “judge the world” because

“we shall judge angels” in heaven (ICor. 6:2,3), and heaven is *over* the earth (Isa.55:9).

So when Paul says we are no longer servants, we are sons (4:7), that means we went from owning *nothing* to owning *everything*. A slave owns *nothing*, for his master owns all that he has, but a son is “lord of all.” What a rags to riches story is ours in Christ!

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

October 10, 2021

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Assistant Pastor Paul Balbach

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

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