

Sermon Scripture Passage: **Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-7**

23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. 24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, 2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. 3 In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Scripture References:

Colossians 1:13-14 – He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Romans 8:14-17 – For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Galatians 5:1, 13 – It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Genesis 1:27-28 – *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

East Glenville Church – Sermon Notes Handout – October 1st 2023

Women, Men, Marriage Singleness #4 – Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-7 – Heirs of the Kingdom

Starting Question: *What is the status of daughters in the Kingdom of God?*

How does this compare with the status of daughters in the Roman Empire?

Galatians 3/4: In Christ we are not _____ under the _____ but we are heirs of the Kingdom

3:23-24 Two Analogies: The Law was a _____ and a _____

How does the situation of the Galatian believers impact Paul's description of the Law?

3:25-26 *What could Christ do that the Law could not?*

3:27-29 _____ baptism signifies baptism by the Holy Spirit into Christ.

In the Roman society _____, _____, and _____ determined your role.

Three Aspects of being a son of God

One – A son has a place in the _____ Two – A son bears the _____ of the Father

Three – A son is an _____ of the Kingdom

4:1-3 *In what way was humanity in slavery prior to the coming of Christ?*

4:4-5 We are _____ out of slavery and _____ into the family.

4:6-7 *What aspects of the _____ of sin are undone by the redeeming work of Christ?*

Thoughts from *Confronting Christianity*, Rebecca McLaughlin:

Modern-day critics accuse Christianity of being _____ and _____ to women.

The _____ of women was raised in the early church.

Roman critics _____ Christianity for being the religion of slaves and women.

Women played a major role in the first-century _____

The Bible shocks modern ears, but how would the first hearers have been shocked?

Answers for the blanks:

- Slaves under the Law
-

How does the situation of the Galatian believers impact Paul's description of the Law?

- False teachers were telling the Galatians that Jesus was not enough, and that to really be right with God they would have to fulfill the Law and undergo circumcision

What could Christ do that the Law could not?

- The Law made us slaves/servants only Christ could make us sons.

- Water
- Ethnicity, social status, gender
- Family
- Image
- Heir
- Redeemed
- Adopted

What aspects of the _____ of sin are undone by the redeeming work of Christ?

- Curse

Thoughts from *Confronting Christianity*, Rebecca McLaughlin:

- Oppressive
- Denigrating
- Status
- Mocked
- Spread of the gospel – spread of Christianity
-