

*“So Christ has truly set us free.
Now make sure that you stay free,
and don’t get tied up again in
slavery to the law.”*

Galatians 5:1

Freedom at Risk

Judaizers

1. Believe in Jesus Christ
2. Obey the Law of God
3. You will be saved

Belief & Law = Salvation

Paul

1. Believe in Jesus Christ
2. Be Saved
3. Result: you will obey God's law

Belief and Salvation leads to obedience



CHRIST
has set you
FREE

Christ Formed in You Gal 4:19-31

Freedom at Risk

Religious/legalistic

1. Believe in Jesus Christ
2. Obey the Law of God
3. You will be saved

Christ's Freedom

1. Believe in Jesus Christ
2. Be Saved
3. Result: you will obey God's law

Freedom at Risk

Religious/legalistic

1. I am worthy because of what I do
2. God loves and accepts me because of my good deeds
3. Looking down on, and judging others based on behaviour
4. My identity is based on what I do

Christ's Freedom

1. I am worthy because of what Christ says about me
2. Christ died for me while I was still a sinner
3. I forgive others, because Christ forgave me
4. My identity is based on Christ

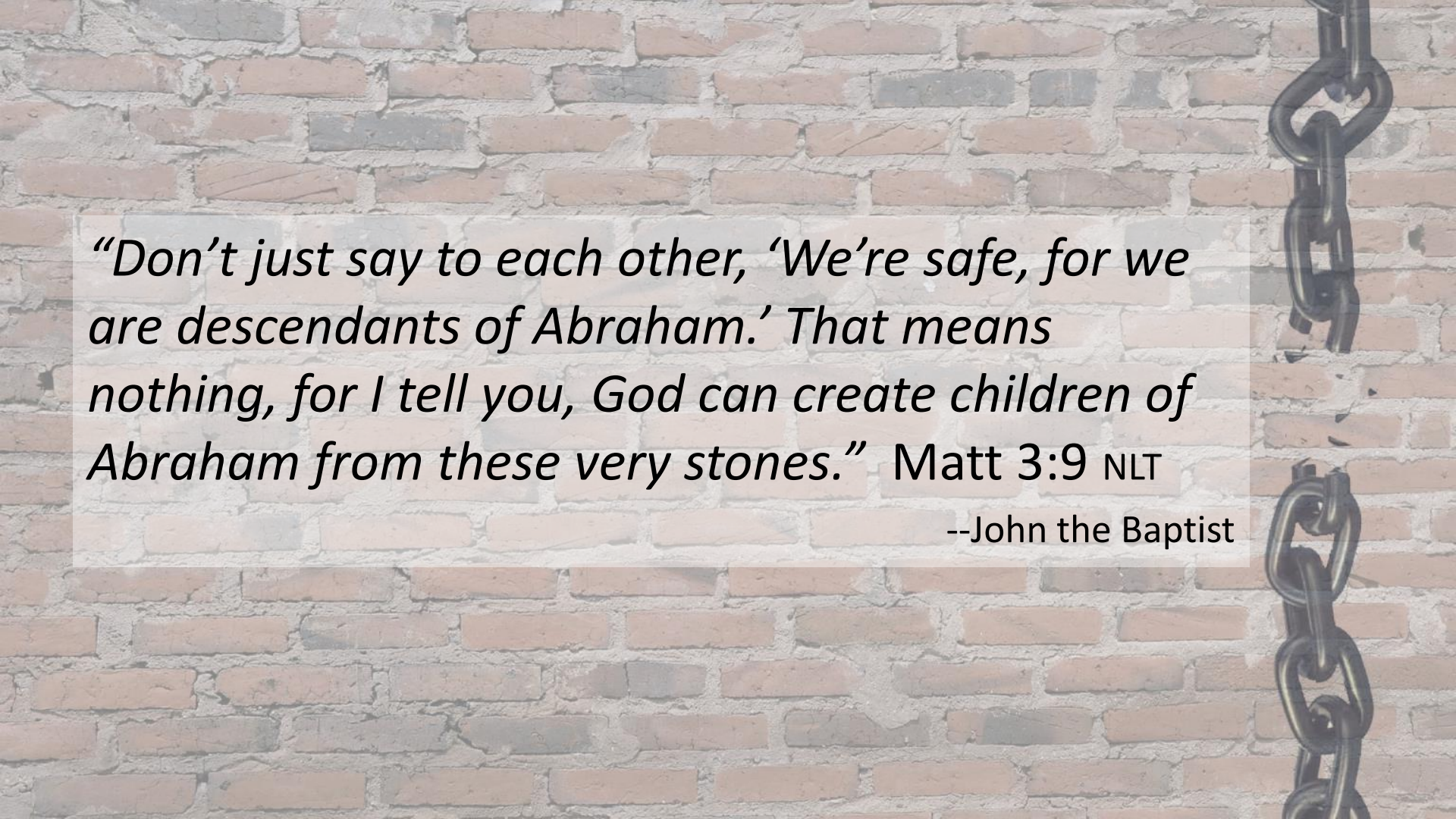
Paul's Heart

“Oh, my dear children! I feel as if I’m going through labour pains for you again, and they will continue until Christ is fully developed in your lives. I wish I were with you right now so I could change my tone. But at this distance I don’t know how else to help you.” Gal 4:19-20 NLT

The History

“The Scriptures say that Abraham had two sons, one from his slave wife and one from his freeborn wife. The son of the slave wife was born in a human attempt to bring about the fulfilment of God’s promise. But the son of the freeborn wife was born as God’s own fulfilment of his promise.”

Gal 4:22-23 NLT



“Don’t just say to each other, ‘We’re safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.’ That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones.” Matt 3:9 NLT

--John the Baptist

The History

Ishmael (false hope)

- Mother Hagar
- Born into Slavery
- Human attempt (natural)
- Natural State is Slavery

Isaac (true hope)

- Mother Sarah
- Born into Freedom
- Based on God's promise (supernatural)
- Supernatural State is Freedom

The Allegory

These two women serve as an illustration of God's two covenants. The first woman, Hagar, represents Mount Sinai where people received the law that enslaved them. And now Jerusalem is just like Mount Sinai in Arabia, because she and her children live in slavery to the law. But the other woman, Sarah, represents the heavenly Jerusalem. She is the free woman, and she is our mother.

Gal 4:24-26 NLT

The Allegory

Old Covenant

- Through Moses
- Based on law
- Human responsibility (do this, don't do that...)
- For Jewish Nation
- Earthly Jerusalem
- Hagar our false mother

New Covenant

- Through Jesus
- Based on promises
- God's responsibility (I will... I will...)
- For ALL people
- Heavenly Jerusalem
- Sarah our true mother

Paul's Heart – Gal 4:19-20



Paul's Heart

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1. A Friend Has a Vision for Your Formation



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“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” Eph 2:10 NLT

1. A Friend Has a Vision for Your Formation

“On the one hand, to burst into God's presence is to become a radiant blindingly immortal person who actually pulsates throughout with energy and such love and wisdom and joy that we cannot now imagine.

...where they become bright stainless mirrors reflecting back to God, though on a smaller scale, his own boundless wisdom, joy, nobility, greatness and delight.”

– C.S. Lewis

1. A Friend Has a Vision for Your Formation

“As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.” Prov 27:17 NLT

2. A Friend Has a Vision for Christ Being Formed in You

I'm going through labour pains for you... until Christ is fully developed in your lives.” Gal 4:19 NLT

“...until Christ is formed in you.” NIV

2. A Friend Has a Vision for Christ Being Formed in You

“Afterward Jesus went up on a mountain and called out the ones he wanted to go with him. And they came to him.” Mark 3:13 NLT

3. A Friend Is Willing to Go into Labour Pains

“I’m going through labour pains for you...” 4:19 NLT

“I wish I were with you right now so I could change my tone. But at this distance I don’t know how else to help you.” Gal 4:20 NLT