

# L11: Galatians 4:1-11: The Adoption of Sons

## Sermon Review: Review/Summarize

- Galatians 1-3 - Justification
  - The Covenant of Promise - The Faith of Jesus Christ
  - The Covenant of Law - Death
  - The Jews' Religion - False Teaching concerning the Law
- Galatians 4-6 - Sanctification
  - The Adoption of Sons
  - Know God
  - No Profit in Circumcision
  - By Love Serve One Another

## Sermon Preview:

- To Know the Father
- Christ the Provision for Adoption
- Do God Service

## Sermon:

(Galatians 4:1)

**Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all;**

- "Now I say" - mini-conclusion
- "that the heir"
  - Gal. 3:18 - *"for if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise."*
  - Gal. 3:29 - *"and if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."*
- "as long as he is a child" - state of maturity
  - State of maturity dictated not by solely time or behavior, but the Father's provision.
  - The "heir" can be "a child" or the "heir" having "received the adoption of sons" can be a "son" and be in a relationship more intimate with his/her Father.
  - "differeth nothing from a servant"

- Has the same kind of status and relationship with his/her father as a servant.
- **"though he be lord of all;"** - that is will inherit that which is his/her father's. In other words, the child will inherit but isn't in the position to fully inherit the way the father desires.

**(Galatians 4:2)**

**But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.**

- **"But is under tutors and governors"**
  - **"under the law"**
    - **"tutors"** - a guardian (angels Gal. 3, Acts 7), involved in others learning; to teach; to instruct; authority, severity; correct
    - **"governors"** - to direct and control actions; to regulate, to restrain; to steer; to exercise authority; to maintain the superiority
      - Ordinances of the law; Colossians 2:10-23
- **"until the time appointed of the father."**
  - Galatians 3:19 - "*... till the seed should come to whom the promise was made*"
  - Galatians 3:23 - "*But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.*"
  - Galatians 3:25 - "*But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.*"

**(Galatians 4:3)**

**Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:**

- **"Even so we"** - cultural truth, to spiritual truth
  - **"when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:"** -
    - under the law - initial (old), but necessary because of transgressions
    - Hebrews 5:10ff

**(Galatians 4:4)**

**But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,**

- **"But when the fulness of the time was come"**

- Until, till, faith came - promise, New Testament
- **"God sent forth His Son"** - the seed, intimacy of knowing the Father and being that light
  - **"made of a woman"** - Heb. 2:16
  - **"made under the law"** - needs to fulfill the Old (Israelite, during the reign of the law)
  - Romans 7

**(Galatians 4:5)**

**To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.**

- **"to redeem them that were under the law"** - Israel, but all the world guilty
  - Romans 3
- **"that we might receive the adoption of sons."** - we have received a new testamental spiritual thing provision and relationship with God (not a mystery) a part from Israel (the mystery)

**(Galatians 4:6)**

**And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.**

- **"And because ye are sons"** - having believed the gospel we are sons
- **"God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts"** - Romans 5, Romans 8
  - The heart is where He is going to work and does so through the mind
    - Romans 12 - renewing of the mind breeds new affections
  - God's called you to know His will, to prove His will, to work His will within, but as sons He does not constrain by force, but by love.
  - **"Abba, Father."** - intimacy of fellowship, not just a priest, not a scribe, but Father

**(Galatians 4:7)**

**Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.**

- **"Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son"**
  - Because of God's provision of His Son and that His Spirit is in our hearts
- **"and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."**

- God's sons are His heirs
- Eph. 1:18

**(Galatians 4:8)**

**Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods.**

- **"Howbeit then, when ye knew not God"** - Gentiles or Jews
  - **"ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods."**
    - They are idols crafted by the workmanship of man's hands
    - They served them
    - Worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator - "no gods" - they were created

**(Galatians 4:9)**

**But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?**

- **"But now"** - after they have believed the gospel
- **"after that ye have known God"** - love commended toward them
  - Further teaching
  - Teaching Paul gave the Galatians
  - Sermon on the Mount (example)
- **"or rather are known of God"** - words that express that you belong to Him that He knows us and knows us legally and intimately

**(Galatians 4:10)**

**Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years.**

- They focus on days instead of body of those things which is Christ
- Colossians 2

**(Galatians 4:11)**

**I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.**

- **Warning**
- **"I am afraid of you"** - warning, an admonition
- **"lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain."** - not their justification, but the word of His grace that is able to build them up

**Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize**