

Galatians 3:21-4:11 – 24 July 2022

“Servants Or Sons”

Introduction

*Theme of Book: Self-merit can never justify man, who is sinful by nature, in the presence of God, who is holy by nature

*Galatians Outlined

*Chap 1-2 – **Jockeying** for justification by faith

*Chap 3-4 – **Basis** of justification by faith

*Chap 5-6 – **Fallout** from justification by faith

*Chap 3:1-20 showed the method of coming back into relation w/ God has ALWAYS been by faith in God

*Now in Chap 3:21 we see how Christ is the fulfillment of the Law bringing US into a new place

*What is this new place? We're no longer servants but sons (doulos or daughters)

***Today we'll see 3 reasons we can't go back to serving the Law**

1st reason we can't go back is b/c the Law has already fulfilled its purpose (Vs 21-25)

Read Vs 21

1. Does the Law of Moses and faith in Jesus work against each other? No
2. The law identifies what is good leading to life but cannot give it b/c no one can do it

Read Vs 22

1. Old & New Testament demonstrates that all are guilty of sin
 - a. Read I Kings 8:46
 - b. Read Rom 3:23
2. Law and faith aren't against each other, they simply have different purposes
 - a. Law is to reflex or show our sin
 - i. This helps us give up on ourself quicker
 - b. Faith is to bring justification
 - i. This shows us to trust in Him

Read Vs 23

1. Before Christ, people lived “under” or experiencing the reality that they’re sinners
2. They were “shut up” or it wasn’t fully revealed how God would solve our problem specifically by faith in Jesus Christ’s death of the cross

Read Vs 24

1. Purpose of the law was to drive the realization into our hearts & minds that we need God to fix us
2. The law was used to further the cause of Justification by faith in our lives, not hinder it

Read Vs 25

1. Now that faith has been revealed, we can’t go back as if it were not revealed to us
2. Now that we know Who the schoolmaster of the law was leading to (Jesus), we can’t live as if we don’t know the end of the story

2nd reason we can't go back is b/c we've been adopted into a new family identity (Vs 26-29)

Read Vs 26

1. There are two ways to become a child, by legal status (born into it) and by adoption (choice)
 - a. Born: Sometimes wanted, sometimes not
 - i. But never chosen just for you
 - b. Adopted: Wanted & chosen w/ knowing who you are – and God knows all of you
2. Coming to God by faith means we accept His offer to adopt us into His family

Read Vs 27

1. We're baptized into Christ when we received the Spirit at salvation as Paul talked about in vs 2
2. "We've put on Christ" means by receiving the Spirit, we've taken on name & reputation of Jesus
 - a. Read Rom 8:14-16 – Having impulses of the Holy Spirit within is proof that we're in the family of God

Read Vs 28

1. My identity in Christ is the same as your identity in Christ...we are equally children of God
 - a. Analogy: Trying to learn how to drive a car
 - i. Some of us got good at some things & some good at other things, but we're not perfect
 - ii. I still can't parallel park
 - iii. But in this analogy, we've surrendered the wheel of the car to Jesus
 - iv. And now assured of reaching the destination! He's the perfect driver!
2. This verse IS NOT talking about male and female roles in church or society
 - a. Specific roles can't be overridden
 - b. This is wrong interpretation of Scripture

Read Vs 29

1. If we have Holy Spirit, we are Christ's & therefore we're heirs of the same promises made to Abraham
 - a. They are promises of eternal life
 - b. Read Tit 3:4-7 – All b/c of kindness of God

3rd reason we can't go back is b/c we've celebrated our coming-of-age party (Vs 1-11)

Read Vs 1-2

1. Premise: A king's young son is treated the same as the servants & friends w/i the kingdom
2. They need guidance to learn & grow

Read Vs 3

1. Living under the governor or the Law showed we were constrained with this system of this world

Read Vs 4-5

1. Jesus came into our condition, as flesh under the law, to solve our problem (Read Heb 2:14)
2. Yet He wasn't a descendant of the male human race
 - a. Jesus - only begotten of the Father (John 1:14)
 - b. AND the descendant of the female (Gen 3:15)
3. This is a strong reason why we must deny gender confusion and adding other false gender
 - a. There is no other way than Jesus

Read Vs 6-7

1. We serve God to honor our Father b/c we're his kids not b/c we'll get fired by the boss
 - a. Don't think 'is this right or wrong', but think 'will this please my father'
2. We're identified w/ Jesus & have all the right & privileges thereto

Read Vs 8-9

1. Once you've experienced freedom in Christ, the joy, peace & rest from worrying about our destiny, why would anyone go back to struggling?
 - a. It only brings bondage

Read Vs 10-11

1. Going back to any rules-based attempt at attaining God's favor is vain
 - a. Many Christians raise their kids this way
2. Now, we can observe days & times (Rom 14:5)
 - a. But it should not be done from an attempt at earning His favor, but b/c I have His favor

Conclusion

It doesn't make sense to live any longer under a system of rules to attempt to please God

1. **The Law has already fulfilled its purpose**
 - a. It was brought to further aid us along the journey to finding helplessness in us & redemption in Jesus
2. **We've been adopted into a new family identity**
 - a. We all know God chose you
 - b. God put His Spirit w/i us proving that He'll keep His promise toward us forever
3. **We've celebrated our coming-of-age party**
 - a. We're no longer immature in need of teachers to prove to us that we're sinners
 - b. We've experienced freedom in Christ and received His Spirit within

Will you live as a servant or doulos trying to bribe God?

Or will you live as a son or daughter living in the favor of God by His great grace toward us?