

Galatians 4:1-7

**God has brought us into His Household
as children of the Inheritance**

Galatians 4:1-2

- Heir = children in line to receive an Inheritance
 - Paul is illustrating the role of the law - a time when God's people were not in possession of it (ended by the gospel)
- Child - neipos = refers to infant or minor that could not care for themselves - used to refer to someone immature in their faith
- Children were no different than a slave in terms of role

Galatians 4:3

- Enslaved to elementary principles - basic things of the world
 - The law = basics instilled by a guardian - What sin is

Galatians 4:4-5

- Fullness of time = appointed time by God for Christ to come
- To redeem those under the Law
 - Redeem = purchase those under slavery
- Adoption
 - Israel
 - Chosen and enslaved to the law
 - Child/heir like a slave in subjection to regulations
 - without authority or ability to make decisions
 - Christians
 - Rebels and enslaved by sin
 - Full heir through the redemption in Christ - elevated
 - Given authority and ability to make decisions

Galatians 4:6

- "Abba! Father!" - Mark 14:31/Rom 8:15
 - Rom 8:15 - Reflected the way Jesus spoke to the Father
 - Mark 14:31 - Expression of intimate relationship with God
 - Christ and the Spirit have this relationship expressed "Abba"
 - Indwelling of the Spirit in believers imparts the same relationship to believers
 - Believers cry out but the Spirit also cries out for us on our behalf (Rom 8:26-27)

Galatians 4:7

- no longer a slave - delivered from the law (Basics of sin and remaining set apart from the world)
 - But a son - Removed from a regulated life
 - Given autonomy and authority
 - then an Heir - given an inheritance of Heaven in the kingdom of God

This was all because of the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross

- Mercy & Grace
 - Mercy - atonement of sin through the sacrifice of Christ
 - Grace - blessings given that we are undeserving of

Stewards of the Kingdom

- We have a perspective no one else does
 - We see the kingdom of God all around us
 - God working in us
 - God working through us
- We are God's representative in the world
 - To reveal Christ to others
 - To bring believers to maturity (1 Cor 11:1)
- We have hope of future glory
 - We see this world as only temporary
 - It's pleasures are fading (Good and Bad)
 - Everything has eternal effects (motivation = build into eternity)
 - Matthew 6:19-21

For we are no longer slaves but brought into the house of God