



No Longer Slaves but Sons

Galatians 4:1-7

THE ISSUE: ISRAEL WAS STUCK IN PERPETUAL SLAVERY TO LAW

1. Children live like slaves.

Gal. 4:1 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. Children need guardians.

Gal. 4:2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father.

Gal. 3:24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

3. Children have restrictions.

Gal. 4:3 In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.

Gal. 3:23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

NOTES:

THE SOLUTION: THE PERFECT SON BUYS US BACK FROM ENSLAVEMENT TO LAW INTO ADULT SONSHIP

Gal. 4:4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

“FULLNESS OF TIME”

THE STAGE WAS SET FOR THE GOSPEL, MARKED BY:

1. **EXPECTANCY** in the Jewish world – looking for a Messiah; when will these prophetic passages come to fruition?
2. **SECURITY** – Roman Empire – enforced peace and security; built roadways that made movement possible
3. **CLARITY** – Greek language for communication across national and ethnic boundaries

THE RESULT: WE CAN NOW LIVE APART FROM THE LAW BECAUSE THE SPIRIT HAS BEEN SENT

Gal. 4:6 *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.*

The Holy Spirit secures...

1. ...freedom from the law's guardianship.

Gal. 4:7 *So you are no longer a slave...*

2. ...adult adoption into God's family.

Gal. 4:7 *So you are no longer a slave, but a son...*

3. ...full and total access to the benefits of being part of God's household.

Gal. 4:7 *So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir...*

4. ...complete confidence in our new status.

Gal. 4:7 *So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

REVIEW/DISCUSS

1. Take some time this week to read all of Galatians 4. Make note of Paul's use of the words "freedom, promise, and Spirit", as well as "slavery, flesh, and Law". What strikes you in this chapter? What is not currently clear? What encourages you? Share your thoughts with someone.

APPLY

1. Memorize Galatians 4:7 with the goal of comprehension. Describe the relationship between the words: slave, son, and heir. What confidence/encouragement do you receive from the final words, "through God"?

SONGS

Come Now Is The Time To Worship
Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery
How Deep the Father's Love For Us
Doxology

OUR WEBSITE

altamontbiblechurch.com

2026 BUDGET

Weekly Giving: \$34,720 Weekly Need: \$12,300
YTD Giving: \$169,306 YTD Need: \$184,500
Expansion Fund: \$390,773

COMMUNICATION & GIVING

Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, and communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please pass your envelope to the ushers or deposit them in the offering box by the exit doors. Thank you!

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