

CHILDREN OF THE FREE WOMAN

Galatians 4:8-31

Key Verse: 4:31

I. PAUL'S ZEAL TO WIN THE GALATIANS OVER TO CHRIST (8-20)

1. What was the Galatians' spiritual condition before knowing God? (8; Eph 2:2-3) Why were they helpless? (Ac 14:11-14) How were they rescued? (9a; 1:4; Col 1:13-14) What dangers did they face in turning to Jewish legalism? (9b-10) How did Paul express his agony as a shepherd? (11)

2. What was Paul's earnest plea and what was its basis? (12) How would following Paul's example help them to be free from legalism? (1:14-15; 1 Cor 9:21) After receiving the gospel from Paul, how were their lives changed, and what kind of relationship did they have with him? (13-14) What happened when they turned to Jewish legalism? (15-16)

3. What did Paul have in common with the Judaizers, and how were their motives different? (17-19) How had Paul been changed from a legalistic Jew into such a compassionate shepherd? (Ac 9:1; 26:14-18) Where did his shepherd heart originate? (1 Ti 1:13-16)

4. Read verse 19. How did Paul address the Galatians? What metaphor did Paul use to describe his labor of love for the Galatians? Why did he necessarily have to go through such pain? To what extent did Paul try to help them to grow? (Col 2:6-7; Eph 3:17) What can we learn from his mother-like shepherding? From his "never give up" spirit? (Ac 14:21-22)

II. "WE ARE CHILDREN OF THE FREE WOMAN" (21-31)

5. What allegory did Paul use to help them understand the difference between being slave and free? (21-23) What do these two women stand for? (24-26) What does "the Jerusalem that is above" refer to? (Heb 12:22-24) To what did Paul compare the Galatians' past condition? (27) What did God do for them and what was their present status? (28)

6. How does Paul understand the present persecution against Galatian Christians? (29) From God's point of view, which one of the sons should be cast out? (30) Who receives the inheritance? What is Paul's conclusion? (31)