

Children of Promise

Gal. 4:21-31

1. There are only two _____: Law or Grace. (vv. 21-27)

“So you want to be under the Law?” Paul is thinking. “Great! The Law will _____ and _____ you.”

Paul says the two mothers represent two covenants, or two paths to salvation.

Hagar, the _____ woman.

Sarah, the _____ woman.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, he _____ the expected meaning of the allegory.

The point is clear: the bondage of legalism and spiritual freedom by the grace of Jesus Christ _____ coexist. We must choose one path or the other.

2. An _____ Interpretation.

“Allegory is the intentional conveying, by means of symbol and image, of a further, deeper meaning than the surface one. Allegory may thus be said to be an extended metaphor, worked out in many relationships. It is of greater length and complexity than parable or fable and is imaginative where analogy is rational.”

-Encyclopedia Britannica

Any allegorical interpretation of the Bible _____ found in the Scripture itself is to be avoided.

But allegorical interpretation undermines the _____ of the Scripture by making it subject to man’s imagination and interpretation.

3. We must choose between _____ and _____. (vv. 28-31)

Those who are believers in _____ are children of the promise and are free.

Those who are still under the _____ are still subject to slavery.

Calvary Connection Group
Discussion Questions for the week of Feb. 24, 2019

Getting to Know Me

- What is the most fun you've had in a sports venue? Why? Alternately, what is the most fun you've had in a shopping center? Why?

- Which gift card would you rather get: Barnes and Noble or Outback Steakhouse? Why?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?

- The story of Hagar is a little obscure. Please read Gen. 16:1-16 and 21:1-15 to refresh your memory. What became of Hagar's son, Ishmael? Who are his descendants today?

- Paul wrote this passage to refute the teaching of the Judaizers. Who were the Judaizers and what did they want? (See Acts 15:1-21.) What was the decision of the Jerusalem Council about this? What was Paul's fear for the Judaizers and any that followed them? (See Gal. 4:8-11.)

- The Galatians had been finding it difficult, in the face of the Judaizers, to trust in God's grace rather than go back, at least partially, to keeping the requirements of the Law. Paul called them "foolish" for this wishy-washiness (Gal. 3:1-5). What five rhetorical questions did Paul ask of the Galatians in that passage and what are the answers that Paul expects?

Application

- Have you ever seen or heard a teacher or pastor engaging in allegorical interpretation? What was your feeling about that then? Now? Is it dangerous, in your opinion? Why or why not?

- Do you find it difficult to rely on the grace of God for your salvation and your sanctification? Why or why not?