

Galatians 4:21-31

- 21** Tell me, those desiring to be under Law, do you not hear the Law?
22 For it is written: Abraham had two sons, the one out of the slave-woman, and one out of the free woman.
23 But, indeed, he out of the slave-woman has been born according to flesh, and he out of the free woman through the promise;
24 which things are being allegorized; for these are the two covenants, one indeed from Mount Sinai bringing forth to slavery, which is Hagar.
25 For Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and answers to Jerusalem which now is, and is in slavery with her children.
- 21** Dites-moi, vous qui voulez être sous la loi, n'entendez-vous point la loi?
22 Car il est écrit qu'Abraham eut deux fils, un de la femme esclave, et un de la femme libre.
23 Mais celui de l'esclave naquit selon la chair, et celui de la femme libre naquit en vertu de la promesse.
24 Ces choses sont allégoriques; car ces femmes sont deux alliances. L'une du mont Sinai, enfantant pour la servitude, c'est Agar, -
25 car Agar, c'est le mont Sinai en Arabie, -et elle correspond à la Jérusalem actuelle, qui est dans la servitude avec ses enfants.

26 But the Jerusalem from above is free, who is the mother of us all.
27 For it is written, "Rejoice, barren one not bearing; break forth and shout, you not travailing; for more are the children of the desolate than she having the husband."
28 But brothers, we, like Isaac, are children of promise.
29 But then even as he born according to flesh persecuted him born according to the Spirit, so it is also now.
30 But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave-woman and her son; for in no way shall the son of the slave-woman inherit with the son of the free woman."
31 Then, brothers, we are not children of a slave-woman, but of the free woman.

26 Mais la Jérusalem d'en haut est libre, c'est notre mère;
27 car il est écrit: Réjouis-toi, stérile, toi qui n'enfantas point! Éclate et pousse des cris, toi qui n'as pas éprouvé les douleurs de l'enfantement! Car les enfants de la délaissée seront plus nombreux Que les enfants de celle qui était mariée.
28 Pour vous, frères, comme Isaac, vous êtes enfants de la promesse;
29 et de même qu'alors celui qui était né selon la chair persécutait celui qui était né selon l'Esprit, ainsi en est-il encore maintenant.
30 Mais que dit l'Écriture? Chasse l'esclave et son fils, car le fils de l'esclave n'hériter pas avec le fils de la femme libre.
31 C'est pourquoi, frères, nous ne sommes pas enfants de l'esclave, mais de la femme libre.

- Gen 16:1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, did not bear. And she had a female **slave**, an **Egyptian**, and her name was Hagar.
- Gen 16:2 And Sarai said to Abram, Behold now, Jehovah has kept me from bearing. I pray you, go in to my slave woman. It may be that I may be built by her. And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.
- Gen 16:3 And **Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her slave woman, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife** (after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan).
- Gen 16:10 And the Angel of Jehovah said to her, I will multiply your seed exceedingly, so that it shall not be numbered for multitude.
- Gen 16:11 And the Angel of Jehovah said to her, Behold, you are with child, and shall bear a son. And you shall call his name Ishmael, because Jehovah has heard your affliction.
- Gen 16:12 And he will be a wild man. His hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him. And he shall live in the presence of all his brothers.

- Gen 17:1 And when Abram was ninety-nine years old, Jehovah appeared to Abram and said to him, **I am the Almighty God! Walk before Me** and be perfect.
- Gen 17:2 And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.
- Gen 17:3 And Abram fell on his face. And God talked with him, saying,
- Gen 17:4 As for Me, behold! **My covenant is with you**, and you shall be a father of many nations.
- Gen 17:5 Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham. For I have made you a father of many nations.
- Gen 17:6 And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, greatly so, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come out of you.
- Gen 17:7 **And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God to you and to your seed after you.**
- Gen 17:8 **And I will give the land to you in which you are a stranger, and to your seed after you, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession. And I will be their God.**

- Gen 17:17 And Abraham fell upon his face and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born to him that is a hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear?
- Gen 17:18 And Abraham said to God, Oh that Ishmael might live before You!
- Gen 17:19 And God said, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son indeed. And you shall call his name Isaac. And I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.
- Gen 17:20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall father twelve chiefs, and I will make him a great nation.
- Gen 17:21 **But I will establish My covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time in the next year.**

- Gen 21:8 And the child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast the day that Isaac was weaned.
- Gen 21:9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian (whom she had borne to Abraham) mocking.
- Gen 21:10 And she said to Abraham, Cast out this slave woman and her son. For the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son, with Isaac.
- Gen 21:11 And the thing was very evil in Abraham's sight, because of his son.
- Gen 21:12 And God said to Abraham, Let it not be grievous in your sight because of the boy and because of your slave woman. In all that Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice. For in Isaac your Seed shall be called.
- Gen 21:13 And also, I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman, because he is your seed.

Two manners of
living: growing
from slaves to
sons

Typified by two
women (Sarah and
Hagar) and their two
sons (Isaac and
Ishmael) as two
covenants

These four people in
the Old Testament
are an allegory for
us living in the New
Testament

What is an allegory?

“The expression, by means of symbolic fictional figures and actions, of truths or generalizations about human existence; also : an instance (as in a story or painting) of such expression”

Merrian Webster Dictionary On Line

1. Do we hear the word of God and do we read the word of God?
2. Who is our husband and who is our source?
3. What is our true condition?
4. Do we rejoice in our condition and cry out and shout to the Lord?
5. What does it mean to be free, and what does it mean to be in slavery?
6. Are we persecuted, or do we persecute others?

1. Do we hear the
word of God and
do we read the
word of God?

The Galatians
desired to live
under law, yet
they needed to
read the « law »

Ironically, the very
« law » that the
Galatians boasted in
records the giving of
the promise before the
law

Do we live our
Christian life by being
told what to do, or do
we live because God
speaks to us?

**2. Who is our
husband?**

Who is our husband?

- What we rely on
- My ability
- I do not need the Lord, if I can trust in my ability
- Yes, I have Christ in theory, but in practicality, I still need my husband to lean on, my self with my ability and skill
- I would rather be doing things than praying and seeking the Lord
- I like to feel useful, as if I am earning favour with the Lord
- I feel justified by my serving and hard labor

Who is our mother?

- Our source
- God must be our source, the One who initiates everything in our Christian life

- For Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and answers to **Jerusalem which now is**, and is in **slavery with her children** (v. 25)
- But the **Jerusalem from above is free**, who is the **mother of us all** (v. 26)

**3. What is our true
condition?**

Desolate,
fruitless, not
travailing

For it is written,
"Rejoice, barren one not
bearing; break forth and
shout, you not travailing;
for more are the
children of the desolate
than she having the
husband" (v. 27)

In our failures, not in
our successes, we can
know who we are really
are, our true condition

Do I cry out to the Lord
as a desolate person?
This is faith

Do I live in the
covenant of grace,
dependent on the Lord
for His supply and
leading?

Or do I despise those who are
weak and in desolation?

Gen 16:4 And he (Abram) went in to Hagar,
and she conceived. And when she saw that she
had conceived, her mistress (Sarah) was
despised in her eyes.

4. Do we rejoice in
our Christian life
and cry out and
shout to the Lord?

In my barrenness,
I can cry out to
the Lord and
rejoice

I do not try to solve
my problem on my
own, but I can
praise and rejoice
in the Lord

**This is to live by
grace, not by law**

5. What does it mean to be free, and what does it mean to be in slavery?

To be free is to
live according to
God's promise

To believe in God
and His promise,
not my ability and
strength

To live a life under the
love and authority of
Jesus Christ

To be free does not
mean to do what I want
when I want, or not.
That is slavery.

To be free is the most
restricted life, not by
our own laws and
regulations, but by the
loving and ruling life of
Christ within us

6. Are we
persecuted, or do
we persecute
others?

- But then even as he born according to flesh persecuted him born according to the Spirit, so it is also now (v. 29)

In my flesh, I will
persecute those
who live in spirit

When I am in
spirit, I may be
persecuted

Our being persecuted
is for our growth in life,
so we may know
ourselves and know the
Lord

One kind of living: of sons	Another kind of living: of slaves
Hears and reads the word of God	Does not hear and read the word of God, but tries to do things according to logic, habit, tradition and routine
Who is our husband? On whom do we rely? On Christ as our source	Relying on our ability, our strength, our wisdom
Who is our mother? Who is our source? If God is our source, we are free	If our ability or our own efforts are our source, then we may be trapped in religious duty
In desolation and barrenness (failure)	Boasting in the achievements of the flesh
Rejoicing and crying out to the Lord	Despising those who are desolate or weak
Free, restricted by the love and authority of Jesus Christ	Enslaved by regulations without an intimacy with Jesus Christ
Persecuted for living in spirit	Mocking or persecuting those who are in spirit