

“Not I, But Christ: Bondage or Freedom”
Galatians 4:12-5:1

The Salvation Theology of Every Child of God Is “Not I, But Christ” – Ga 2:20

The Living-the-Christian-Life Theology of Every Child of God Is “Not I, But Christ” – Ga 2:20

What Happened to Your Satisfaction/Blessedness? – Ga 4:15

- With me? – Ga 4:12-20
 - ... you once received me as a representative of Christ Himself – Ga 4:14
 - ... I treated you as my children – Ga 4:19
- With the Truth of the Gospel? – Ga 2:5,14
 - ... God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as the center – Ga 4:6
 - ... Grace as its means – Ga 1:6
 - ... Liberty as the result – Ga 5:1

What Will It Be: Bondage or Freedom? – Ga 4:21-5:1

(Only one reason to go back under the law: unbelief in the adequacy/sufficiency of Christ
– Ga 2:21-3:5)

- A Timeline:
 - 75 – Abram leaves “Ur” for the Promised Land; promised many descendants
 - 85 – Abram has a son through Hagar – “Ishmael” – (Sarah is barren)
 - 99 – Abraham is reassured by God of a son through Sarah – (Abraham and Sarah barren)
 - 100 – Isaac is born according to the promise of God – (Ishmael mocks/harasses Isaac)

- The Allegory: Ishmael/Hagar (=Law)

- (Ga 4:22-31)
- slave woman/slave child (captivity)
 - born of human performance
 - Abraham’s plan (due to unbelief)
 - Mt. Sinai/Jerusalem “below”
 - not an heir
 - represents the Old Covenant

Isaac/Sarah (=Grace)

- free woman/ free child (freedom)
- born of Divine promise
- God’s plan (received by faith)
- Mt. Zion/Calvary/Jerusalem “above”
- an heir
- represents the New Covenant

- The two do not mix! – Ga 4:30

Cast Out the Legalistic Spirit – Ga 4:30

- What cannot justify cannot sanctify you – Ga 2:16
 - ... as you received Christ – by grace through faith – now walk in Him – Col 2:6
 - Keep standing firm in your freedom – Ga 5:1
 - ... stand in your child of God identity – Ga 4:28
 - ... stand in your freely given, child of God inheritance – Ga 4:30; II Pet 1:3,4
 - ... stand in your child of God freedom – Ga 5:1
- (the ability of any object to act, without hindrance, according to its nature)