

The Epistle To The Galatians¹

Freedom in Christ Versus Slavery Under Law

1. Paul presents several contrasts between the superior and inferior things, such as:

- God's Son vs. Man's Religion (**Gal.1:6-2:10**)
 - Freedom in Christ vs. Slavery Under the Law (**Gal.2:4a; 5:1a**)
 - Spirit vs. Flesh (**Gal.3:1-4:31**)
- a. The Judaizers came in to spy out the Galatians' freedom in Christ to enslave them (**Gal.2:4**)
 - b. Freedom in Christ (**Gal.2:4a; 5:1a**)
 - 1) Implies liberation from obligation to the Law, its ordinances, practices and regulations.
 - 2) Includes satisfaction with a rich supply. Liberation from obligation is outward, satisfaction is inward.
 - 3) The enjoyment of rest and the enjoyment of Christ
 - 4) A treasure
 - c. Slavery Under the Law is the opposite of all the above points, especially it obligates us and puts us under a yoke of bondage and a spirit of slavery. (**Gal.2:4b, 4:9, 5:1b; Mtt.11:28, Acts 15:10, Rom.8:15a**)

2. Slavery under the Law

- a. The Law is typified by Hagar so under the Law we have no position in God's promise and grace (**Gal.4:22-25, 31**)
- b. Since it is composed of dead letters, the Law is unable to give life, i.e., to produce sons, only slaves (**Gal.4:28, 30**)
- c. Striving By the Flesh (**Gal.4:23, 25, 29**)

3. Freedom in Christ

- a. Christ is the Life Giving Spirit Imparting Life By Grace in all our living (**Gal.2:20a, 4:31, John 1:14, 16, 1Cor.15:10, 45a**)
- b. Christ Imparts Life to Produce Sons Like Isaac Inheriting God's Promise (**Gal.4:28, 30-31**)
- c. Sons of Promise Participating in God's Grace of Life Enjoying Freedom in Life (**Gal.5:1**)

¹ Outline and materials based on the *Life-Study of Galatians* by Witness Lee, Living Stream Ministry, Anaheim, California, May, 1984. Any inaccuracies or errors, in the outline above, are the sole responsibility of the adopter of these materials. - D.M.