

Book of Galatians
(God's Written Law vs Rabbinical Oral Law)

2018 Part 14



Keep Context in Mind

- *Paul's main point of the entire book – Salvation (justification or being declared righteous) does not come from keeping any law. One is justified only by "faith" in the redemptive work of Jesus. Paul's focus during the entire letter of Galatians is not to show how a Believer in Jesus is to live once he becomes a Believer.*
- *Why did Paul have to write this letter? – because there were Judaizers... Pharisees and other Jewish brethren who were Believers in the Messiah but wanted the Gentile converts to first accept the religion of Judaism (the Oral law and the authority of the Rabbis. Faith in Messiah was not enough.*

Today we will cover.....
Galatians 4/22-31

*First lets read
Galatians 4/22-31
straight through*

Gal 4:22-23

- *Gal 4:22-23 For it is written that Abraham had two sons : the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. 23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise,*

Gal 4:24

- Gal 4:24 ... which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar —

Gal 4:25-26

- *Gal 4:25-26 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children — 26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.*

Gal 4:27

- *Gal 4:27* *For it is written: "Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband."*

Gal 4:28-29

- *Gal 4:28-29 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. 29 But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now.*

Gal 4:30-31

- *Gal 4:30-31 Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." 31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.*

Now lets read these same verses with explanation.

Gal 4:22-23

- *Gal 4:22-23 For it is written that Abraham had two sons (Ishmael and Isaac): the one by a bondswoman (Hagar gave birth to Ishmael), the other by a freewoman (Sarah gave birth to Isaac). 23 But he (Ishmael) who was of the bondswoman (Hagar) was born according to the flesh, and he (Isaac) of the freewoman (Sarah) through promise,*
- *Ishmael was born because Sarah lacked faith in God, she became impatient with God and told Abraham to have a child with Hagar. Rom 14:23 "... whatever is not from faith is sin".*

Gal 4:24

- Gal 4:24 ... which things are symbolic (Paul uses figurative language based on a true story to make his point that Salvation comes through faith first and then obedience to God's Law). For these are the two covenants (these women represent two covenants...the Abrahamic Covenant based on Faith and the Mosaic Covenant based on Obedience): the one from Mount Sinai (Mosaic Covenant) which gives birth to bondage (mainline Christianity teaches that the Law of God is bondage), which is Hagar (Hagar bore Ishmael unto bondage...Hagar is like the covenant made with the Israelites at Sinai...the Mosaic Covenant)—

Paul Speaks of Two Covenants Abrahamic and Mosaic

- *Abrahamic Covenant – Covenant of Promise came first through faith.*
- *Mosaic Covenant – Covenant of Obedience came second 430 years later in order for God to show Israel (the Redeemed Community) how to live and how to be an example to the nations around.*

Paul Compares These Two Covenants

<i>Covenant</i>	<i>Abrahamic</i>	<i>Mosaic</i>
<i>Nature of the Covenant</i>	<i>Covenant of Promise</i>	<i>The Redeemed (Delivered) Community Enjoys the Promises of the Abrahamic Covenant</i>
<i>Expected Covenant Response</i>	<i>Faith</i>	<i>Obedience</i>

DARKNESS

DARKNESS

DEATH/CURSES

TORAH – God’s Teaching -TORAH
(Christ’s Redeemed

Community)

1. Abrahamic Covenant (Faith
– How to “enter” into the
Redeemed Community)
2. Mosaic Covenant (Obedience
– How to “live” in the
Redeemed Community)

TORAH – God’s Protection - TORAH

DEATH/CURSES

TORAH TORAH

TORAH TORAH

SATAN’S WORLD

SATAN’S WORLD

DEATH/
CURSES

DEATH/
CURSES

SATAN’S WORLD

SATAN’S WORLD

DARKNESS

DARKNESS

Question:

Did the Mosaic Law Cause Israel to Go Into Bondage?

- The answer is “YES”.
- Deut 30:15-19 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, 16 in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.

Question:

Did the Mosaic Law Cause Israel to Go Into Bondage?

- The answer is “YES”.
- 17 But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, 18 I announce to you today that you shall surely perish;....19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

Nation of Israel Agreed to the Covenant (Relationship w/ God) at Mt. Sinai

- *Ex 24:3-7 So Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the Lord has said we will do."7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the Lord has said we will do, and be obedient."*

God Again Warns Israel What Will Happen If They Break the Covenant

- *Deut 28:41-45 You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours; for they shall go into captivity. 42 Locusts shall consume all your trees and the produce of your land. 43 "The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. 44 He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail.*

God Again Warns Israel What Will Happen If They Break the Covenant

- 45 *"Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you.*

God Again Warns Israel What Will Happen If They Break the Covenant

- 2 Chron 6:36-40 *"When they sin against You (for there is no one who does not sin), and You become angry with them and deliver them to the enemy, and they take them captive to a land far or near; 37 yet when they come to themselves in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to You in the land of their captivity, saying, 'We have sinned, we have done wrong, and have committed wickedness';*

God Again Warns Israel What Will Happen If They Break the Covenant

- *38 and when they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, where they have been carried captive, and pray toward their land which You gave to their fathers, the city which You have chosen, and toward the temple which I have built for Your name: 39 then hear from heaven Your dwelling place their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive Your people who have sinned against You.*

God Again Warns Israel What Will Happen If They Break the Covenant

- Lam 1:18 "The Lord is righteous, For I rebelled against His commandment. Hear now, all peoples, And behold my sorrow; My virgins and my young men Have gone into captivity.
- Neh 9:36 "Here we are, servants today! And the land that You gave to our fathers, To eat its fruit and its bounty, Here we are, servants in it!
- God promised that if they rebelled, they would go into captivity, be slaves, and live in bondage to their enemies. (Captivity in Egypt, in Assyria, and in Babylon)

Gal 4:25-26

- *Gal 4:25-26 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children — 26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.*
- *According to the Jewish historian Josephus, the scribes and the Pharisees had a tremendous amount of influence over the Jews in Jerusalem and held the people in bondage through their religious laws of Judaism.*

Quotes from the Jewish Historian Josephus

- *Josephus Ant. 18, 1.3*: “...they (the Pharisees) are able greatly to persuade the congregation of the people; and whatsoever they do about divine worship, prayers, and sacrifices, they perform them according to their direction, inasmuch that the cities gave great attestations to them on account of their entire virtuous conduct, both in the actions of their lives and their discourses also.

Quotes from the Jewish Historian Josephus

- *Josephus Ant. 18.1.4*: “...they (the Sadducees) are able to do almost nothing of themselves; for when they become magistrates, as they are unwillingly and by force sometimes obliged to be, they addict themselves to the notions of the Pharisees, because the multitude would not otherwise tolerate them.”

Quotes from the Talmud

- Enuvin 21b: “My son, be more careful in the words of the scribes than in the works of the Torah... whoever transgresses any of the enactments of the scribes incurs the penalty of death.
- Sanhedrin 88b: “There is greater culpability in respect to the teachings of the scribes than in respect to the Torah... adding to the words of the scribes, he is culpable (deserving of punishment, event death).

Paul Used Symbolic Language to Show Bondage of the People in Jerusalem

- For Paul, Jerusalem was in slavery with her children and he expressed it through this “allegory/parable/symbolic/figurative image” of Hagar and her son Ishmael.
- Paul warned the Galatian brethren not to fall under the religion of (Judaism, Oral Law, and authority of the Rabbis).
- He stressed “faith in the Messiah to be saved” and then “obedience after being saved”.

Gal 4:25-26

- *Gal 4:25-26 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children — 26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.*
- *See next slides for description of the “New Jerusalem”.*

New Jerusalem from Above

- *Rev 21:9-27 9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.*

New Jerusalem from Above

- *12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. 14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb....The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.*

New Jerusalem from Above

- *19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. 21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.*

New Jerusalem from Above

- *22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. 24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. 25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). 26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.*

Gal 4:27

- *Gal 4:27* *For it is written: "Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband."*
- *The woman of faith (Sarah)* *will bear more children than she who has the man (Hagar). We are like Isaac, we are the children of promise through faith!*

Gal 4:28-29

- *Gal 4:28-29 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. 29 But, as he (Ishmael) who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him (Isaac) who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now.*

Gal 4:30-31

- *Gal 4:30-31* Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son (the faithless ones), for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." 31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free (the faithful ones).
- *We are to cast out all faithlessness* and instead be faithful, because then we will inherit the promise.
- *Paul continues to stress* 1) Faith first and then 2) Obedience as a Believer.

Next Week
Galatians 5