

## Going Back Into Bondage

### **Galatians 4:8-11**

#### Intro:

- A. The Galatians had become heirs of God.
  - 1. This was done through their having faith in Jesus.
  - 2. God declared them sons, it was His declaration that made it so, not the statement of another.
- B. They were refusing to live in the glory of their new relationship.
  - 1. They were turning toward their former way of worship and service, and not to God.
  - 2. This would put them in the position of being slaves again to the, "elements of the world".

#### I. The Galatians Before Sonship.

- A. **Vs. 8 "Howbeit then, when ye knew not God..."**
  - 1. "But formerly..."
  - 2. "Know not" = οἶδα = "to perceive, have knowledge".
  - 3. Before they, by faith, had become heirs of God they had no perception or knowledge of God.
- B. **"...ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods."**
  - 1. "Service" = δουλεω = "to serve as a slave".
  - 2. "Nature" = φύσις = what one is by nature, the essence or inborn quality of a thing.
  - 3. These statements were true of Jew and Gentile.

#### II. Their Deliverance From Idol Slavery.

- A. It was a work of God.
  - 1. They did not initiate the change.
  - 2. It was not a desire for social functions.
- B. **Vs. 9a "But now, after that ye here known God..."**
  - 1. "Known" = γινωσκω = "to perceive", "observe", "obtain a knowledge of or insight into."
  - 2. "But now you have a heart knowledge of God..."
- C. **"...or rather are known of God."**
  - 1. "known" = (same)
  - 2. "or, rather have been found by Him."
  - 3. "after God came to know you as His heir"

#### III. Their Return To Idol Slavery.

- A. **Vs. 9b "...how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements..."**
1. "Weak" = ασθενης = "without strength".
  2. "Beggarly" = πτωχος = "poor", "one who crouches or cringes".
  3. "Turn ye again" = επιστρεφετε = "to turn to someone or something".
  4. On what basis are you turning to serve again as slaves a powerless and resourceless system".
- B. **Vs. 9c "...wherein ye desire again to be in bondage?"**
1. "Desire" = θελω = "to will", "to wish", "desire".
  2. "Bondage" = δουλευω = "to serve as a slave".
- C. **Vs. 10 The symptoms of their desire.**
1. "Observe" = παρατηρω = "to have an eye near", "watch closely with superstitious intent".
  2. To be conscious of Halloween with the intent of seeing something pertaining to the occult or mysterious.
  3. They paid close attention to special, "holy" days, months, and times, and years.
  4. Could we be doing the same with Easter, Christmas, etc...

#### IV. Paul's Concern For Them.

- A. **Vs. 11 "I am afraid of you..."**
1. "Afraid" = φοβεομαι = "to be terrified".
  2. "You fill me with frightening thoughts".
- B. **"...lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain."**
1. "Bestowed" = κοπιαω = "to be tired", "grow weary", "fatigued", "spent with labor".
  2. "Labor" = κοπιαω = "to be beat our, to weary one's self as with labor, toil".
  3. "Vain" = εικη = "to no purpose".
  4. "You make me fear that the labour which I have spent on you may have been wasted - TCNT"