

## Heirs Of God

### Galatians 4:1-7

Intro:

- A. Paul writes the Galatians of their sonship.
    - 1. Vs. 26 "For ye are all the children of God..."
    - 2. How? "...by faith in Christ Jesus."
  - B. This is where they had been brought by the law.
    - 1. Vs. 24 "...the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ".
    - 2. "...that we might be justified by faith."
  - C. Vs. 27 They were now..."in Christ".
    - 1. This was why they could be Just.
    - 2. Vs. 28 In Him they were "one".
  - D. Vs. 29 Paul continues by explaining how they are, by virtue of their faith, heirs of God.
    - 1. "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abrahams seed."
    - 2. "and heirs according to the promise."
- I. The Heir As A Minor.

- A. 4:1 "Now I say, that the heir, as long as he is a child..."
  - 1. "Heir" = κληρονομος = "Receiving a portion" A son after he has succeeded to the inheritance and is now undertaking all the duties and obligations of the father." He who has the inheritance."
  - 2. "Child" = υηπιος = "Not speaking, hence a minor."
- B. "...differeth nothing from a servant..."
  - 1. "he no way differs from a slave."
  - 2. "Servant" = δουλος = "a slave".
  - 3. "He is no better than a slave".
- C. "...though he be lord of all."
  - 1. "Lord" "the possessor", "the owner", "master".
  - 2. "though all the estate is his."
- D. Vs. 2 "But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father."
  - 1. "Tutor" = επιτροπος = "a guardian", "one to whom a charge is committed".
  - 2. "Governors" = οικονομος = "a house manager", often had financial management for a minor child.
  - 3. "Appointed" = προθεσμια = "a fixed or a limited time"

within which money was to be paid.

## II. The Bondage Of Sin.

- A. Vs. 3 "Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage..."
1. "In the very same way..."
  2. "Children" = (See I, A, 2)
  3. "bondage" = δουλωω = "to be enslaved".
  4. Rotten to the core.
- B. "...under the elements of the world:"
1. "Elements" = στοιχειον = These were the simplest of the parts of letters. They were the primary elements of matter as in physics. What atoms are made of.
  2. "Bound by the most primitive concepts."
- C. Vs. 4 "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his son,..."
1. "Fulness" = πληρωμα = "that which is filled up."
  2. εξαπαστελλω = "to send out from".
  3. "But when the fixed time arrived, God sent out His Son..."
  4. "Time" = χρονος = "the time in which anything is done".
- D. "...made of a woman, made under the law."
1. "Made" = γινομαι = "to come into existence"
  2. "...born a woman's child, born subject to law."  
TCNT

## III. The Purpose Of It All.

- A. Vs. 5 "To redeem them that were under law..."
1. "Redeem" = εξαγοραζω = "to buy out of the market place".
  2. "that he might pay the price demanded by the law"
- B. "...that we might receive the adoption of sons."
1. "Receive" = απολαμβανω = "to receive in full".
  2. "Adoption" = υιοθεσια = "Receiving into the relation of a son". υιος = "son", θεσις = "a placing".
  3. "that we might attain the status as sons" NEB
  4. Adopted or born again, it is the same!
  5. Does not have some special meaning!

#### IV. The Glory Of The Sonship.

- A. **Vs.6 "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his son into our hearts, crying Abba, Father."**
1. "Sons" = υἱος = "mature son".
  2. "Crying" = κραζω = "to cry out"
  3. "Abba" = Aramaic for father.
  4. "Father" = πατηρ = The simplest labial sound of an infant.
  5. When we become the son of God by faith God sends forth the same Spirit that He gave to Jesus. This was the spirit that recognized God as His Father. He called God, "Father". This is a natural act on the part of the child. Are we God's child by faith? Is our relationship to God of such a nature that we cry, "Father", to the God of all creation. (A good song her, Crying, Father)
- B. **Vs. 7 "Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son..."**
1. "Servant" = δουλος = slave
  2. "Son" = υἱος = mature son
- C. **"and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."**
1. "and if a son, then an heir, made so by God" Gspd
  2. We become sons of God by faith. God then appoints us to heirship solely on the basis of our being His son. This implies our reaching the age of majority as a result of being a son and not by, growing in grace.

