

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

December 4, 2011

9. Children of Hagar and Sarah

Galatians 4:21-31

- 1. In Christianity we practice genuine agape relationships that are based on the sound doctrine of the true gospel. Paul in the Book of Galatians helps us to understand that the practice of the true gospel defines who is a child of God and who is not because not everyone is a child of God. We are not all God's children! Children are born or adopted into a family. The law cannot qualify us to be children of God because it cannot justify us to meet God's requirements. We have to be born or adopted into God's family! The law was and is a school master until we come into Christ and are justified by faith to be part of God's family. So it is in Christ that we are the children of God through faith because anyone baptized into Christ is clothed with Christ. There is therefore a distinction between the children of the law and the children of the promise.**
- 2. Therefore, Paul calls Believers (children of God) back to the true and pure gospel that affirms that salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing else. For we walk by faith and by sight! The children of faith are the children of the promise and they rely on the power of the Holy Spirit so as not to start depending on the flesh and so begin to display the corrupt works of the flesh. In truth, good works can only be accomplished in the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit that every believer has after receiving Jesus Christ by faith. The children of the law are the children of the flesh. The children of the flesh are often called the children of Hagar, the slave woman whereas the children of the promise are called the children of Sarah, the free woman. These two women represent two covenants.**
- 3. Thus today's text reads, "Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. 23 His son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a divine promise. 24 These things are being taken figuratively: The women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written: "Be glad, barren woman, you who never bore a child; shout for joy and cry aloud, you who were never in labor; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband." 28 Now you, brothers and sisters, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 At that time the son born according to the flesh persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. 30 But what does Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son." 31 Therefore, brothers and sisters, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman" (Galatians 4:21-31).**
- 4. Mt Traveler members, as we conclude this sermon please allow me to summarize today's sermon as follows:**
 - Christians are not children of the law but children of God by promise and**

faith.

- Christians are not Children of the flesh but children of the Spirit through grace by faith.
- Christians are not children of slavery to sin but children of freedom from sin.
- Children born of the flesh always persecute those born of the Spirit.
- We are not children of the slave woman (Hagar) but children of the free woman (Sarah).
- Since you are his child, God has made you an heir also. Therefore the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son. Christians you have an inheritance and are children of destiny (heaven). And let the church say, "Amen!"

- 5 So if you desire to know God and enjoy the status of a child of the Promise to inherit eternal life we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life. Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved. May God bless you as you humbly come to Him while the Choir leads us in a song?
- 6 And if you are reading this on the Internet why don't you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org?

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. Chris Johns, Youth Minister

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

December 11, 2011

10. Freedom in Christ

Galatians 5:1-12

INTRODUCTION – Christmas Shopping traffic

1. What is the perfect gift?
2. How do we deal with the traffic jams of life?
3. How do we react to the hinderers on the roads of life?

I. Break down of Verses 1-6

A. Verse 1 – Stand in the freedom we have in Christ

B. Verse 2 – Plan not to be entangled in yoke of bondage

1. Religious holidays grave concern
2. Ga 4:10-11, Observe days, months, times & years
3. Set our minds on things of the spirit
Romans 8:5-6
4. We must be careful not to trust in ourselves, nor any law or religion off man.
5. Our faith is our hope in our darkest hours
 1. Without faith it is impossible to please God.
 2. Without faith we have doubt & fear
6. Faith in Christ produces hope- Romans 5:2

- 1. Peace
- 2. We can live, overcome the world/devil
- 7. Faith must be activated with love
- C. Verse 3 – Observing circumcision requires keeping the whole law
- D. Verse 4 – Justification in anything other than Christ will cause us to fall from grace.
- E. Verse 5 – Through the spirit & by faith we wait for hope of righteousness
- F. Verse 6 – Faith working through love
 - 1. Works without love produces a cold heartless religion and there is no relationship
 - 2. In the last days the love of many will wax cold

II. Verses 7-12, Being Hindered in our spiritual race

- A. Verse 7 – Who hindered you?
 - 1. A race we must all run well
Heb 12:1, let us run with patience the race set before us.
 - 2. Do we help or hinder those who run along?
Hinder with false teaching, Ga 5:1-6
Preventing one from obeying the truth, Ga 5:7
Through sinful conduct – How we forget
- B. Verse 9 – How God feels about those hinder?
 - 1. Leaven that leavens the whole lump
 - 2. Their negative influence spreads infecting others
- C. Verse 10 – They will bear their judgment and be held accountable.
 - 1. Ecc 12:14, God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or evil.
 - 2. Lk 17:2 Millstone around neck & cast in sea
- D. Verse 12 – Cut themselves off/Emasculate

III. Conclusion

- A. To accept Christ is to reject everything else
- B. You must know who you are and belong too
- C. Everyone is not a child of God
 - 1. Some will try to hinder you in your race
 - 2. God can not lie and will not tempt you
- D. Faith must be activated with love
- E. Christ Death & Resurrection
 - 1. Greatest love and servant
- F. Invitation to Christ

When we do accept Jesus Christ as Lord and savior, we enter a relationship with Christ and become part of God's holy family. If you desire to enter a relationship with Christ and be made right with God why don't you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. B. C. Datiri, Pastor

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

December 18, 2011

11. Life by the Spirit

Galatians 5:13-26

- 1. In Christianity we practice genuine agape relationships that are based on the sound doctrine of the true gospel. Paul in the Book of Galatians helps us to understand that the practice of the true gospel defines who is a child of God and who is not because not everyone is a child of God. We are not all God's children! Children are born or adopted into a family. The law cannot qualify us to be children of God because it cannot justify us to meet God's requirements. Christmas is a time for us to reflect on the fact that Christ was born as man to suffer and die so that man can be reconciled with God and Gentiles can be adopted as children of God to inherit His kingdom.**
- 2. Therefore, Paul calls Believers (children of God) back to the true and pure gospel that affirms that salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing else. When we accept Jesus Christ as Lord and savior, we are born again. A believer in the true gospel is one who has accepted salvation by grace through faith. A believer is one born again because the second birth is through the Holy Spirit who does the work of convincing, convicting and converting sinful men. Therefore a born again person has the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) indwelling or living in him. No wonder the Bible says that those who are led by the Spirit and walked by the Spirit are called the children of God. Those who live by the leading of the Holy Spirit and walk by faith are free from the law, free from sin and free from the fear of death. They are the children of God with a destiny of heaven to inherit the kingdom of God their Father. Hence, they do not gratify the desires of the flesh. Rather, they walk by the Spirit and manifest the fruit of the Spirit because the freedom they have does not permit them to indulge in the gratification of the flesh.**
- 3. Thus today's text reads, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. 16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the**

Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other” (Galatians 5:13-26).

4. Mt Traveler members, as we conclude this sermon please allow me to summarize today’s sermon as follows:

- **Christians are not children of the law but children of God by promise and the Spirit through grace by faith.**
- **Christians are not children of slavery to sin but children of freedom from sin, Satan and the fear of death.**
- **Christians have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. They now live by the Spirit and faith, manifesting the fruit of the Spirit.**
- **Since Christians live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.**
- **Therefore Christians must not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. And let the church say, “Amen!”**

5. So if you desire to know God and enjoy the status of a child of God and live by the Spirit to inherit eternal life we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life. Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved. May God bless you as you humbly come to Him while the Choir leads us in a song?

6. And if you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org?

**Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. R. D. Jacobs, Evangelist**

CHRISTMAS DAY 2011

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS – CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRUE GOSPEL

**December 25, 2011
2:19-22**

12. The Promised Blessing is Fulfilled!

Gal. 4:4-7; Ephes.

The Prophet Isaiah is recorded as saying in Isaiah 7:14, “Therefore the LORD himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel”. Over four hundred years after the Prophet Isaiah made that prophecy, that Promised Blessing was fulfilled! The fact that we are celebrating Christmas bears witness to the fact that Christ was born.

Galatians chapter 4 verses four and five tells us that when the fullness of the time had come for God to fulfill the promise that He made, He sent forth his son born of a woman, born under the law to redeem, or buy back, ransom free, or purchase with a cost those who are under the law to give them the adoptions of sons into his family. It is of great significance to understand Why Jesus had to be born of a woman. For long before we were born something separated us from God, that “something” was sin-rebellion and disobedience to God. The first man and woman (Adam and Eve) sinned against God and they were cursed and forced to leave from God’s presence to be separated from Him.

God's wrath then was turned to man, and Genesis chapter 3 records God instituting the Law by killing an animal and covering Adam and Eve's sin and nakedness. So when Eve went to mate with her husband Adam to conceive children, she shed her own life blood in conceiving and consummated the Law and thus in great sorrow she bore children separated from God. And all humans then were born as David said he was born in Psalms 51:5, born in sin and shaped in iniquity. God then required that when man sinned against him, to satisfy his wrath against us, Life Blood had to be shed. If by God's grace your own life blood wasn't shed, you had to find a substitute and man turned to unblemished animals without any defects. But the law still was not fulfilled, because every time man rebelled and disobeyed God, he had to present another sacrifice. But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth his son, born of a woman just as we were. This son proclaimed that, I have not come to destroy the law but to fulfill it. (Matthew 5:17)

Mary, Jesus' mother, bore this son Jesus in a special way because she was a virgin. The virgin birth proved that the babe inside of Mary was not of man, but of God. That is why his name would be called Immanuel – God with us. The virgin birth also spoke of both the humanity and divinity of Christ. Since Mary was a virgin she did not shed her own life blood in conceiving Jesus, so he was born under the law but not the curse of being separated from God. Understanding this now we can see why He said in John 17:16, I am in the World but not of the World. And we further see why Hebrews 4:15 says that he was subject to like temptations as we are yet was without sin. He was born just as we were, yet he was perfect without any blemish or defect and with the shedding of His blood once and for all he could redeem us back into God's family via adoption as the atoning sacrifice. We would be in great error to say that everyone born is born a child of God; the truth is that we are like aliens in a foreign country, and strangers to God. But, Galatians 4:7 says that Through Christ we're redeemed by His blood, and not by silver or gold nor by our own efforts. (1Peter 1:18-19)

Once we are adopted into His family, as new creations we are filled with his indwelling Spirit and are made apart of His family in the Earth. Ephesians 2:19-22 tells us that we then become a living stone in His expression in the Earth, His Body-the Church. And when we come together with each of our S.H.A.P.E.'s (Spiritual Gift, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences) we form a holy dwelling place for God's spirit to dwell in. We form a holy temple unified by faith, cemented together by Love, covered by God and built upon the foundation that the prophet's prophesized of and that the apostles proclaimed, Jesus Christ- the Chief corner stone. And as a cornerstone he brought together two walls, the Jewish and the non Jewish, or Gentiles as apart of God's family!

This is the True Gospel of Christianity that only through Christ are we made apart of God's family. We are free to live now by the spirit because the law has been fulfilled and

completed! Christmas should be a time to celebrate the Gift that God gave the entire world, because He loved us so, His Son Jesus. We should celebrate the fact that God fulfilled the Promise that he made. On Christmas the greatest gift that you can accept is the gift that God gave, His son Jesus the promised Savior. It is a gift that God has given, all you have to do is accept, believe in and trust in the gift - Jesus. When we do, we enter a relationship with Christ and enter God's holy family. If you desire to enter a relationship with Christ and be made right with God why don't you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior, then write and tell us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org