

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH (continued) Galatians 4:1-31

Introduction

Paul continued to deal with the doctrine of justification by faith in chapter four. He wanted to show the Galatian Christians the weakness of the Law to save them and its utter poverty to enrich them. Instead of looking to the Law to help them, they needed to believe the Promise of God for salvation and riches. Paul pleaded with the Galatians to stand with him in this doctrine as they had at the first and not to count him as their enemy. Then he warned them of the danger of mixing God's Law with God's Promise to obtain God's blessing.

Aim of the Lesson

Teach the blessings of the doctrine of justification by faith; love it and defend it.

Outline of the Lesson

A. _____ of God's _____ (4:1-7)

1. Children of God are under the Law (4:1-3)

Who are the children (infants) that are heirs of God? (1, 3)

Who do the tutors and governors refer to? (2)

What did the Law do to the children? (3)

2. Sons of God are free from the Law (4:4-7)

How did the children of God (infants) receive the adoption as sons of God? (4-5)

Name one blessing that sons of God receive. (6)

Name another blessing that sons of God receive. (7)

Receive God's blessings by faith in Christ. The Law cannot bless; it causes bondage.

B. _____ of Paul's _____ (4:8-20)

1. The possibility of laboring in vain in Galatia (4:8-11)

What made Paul think that his labors might be in vain?

2. His present relationship with the Galatians was uncertain (4:12-16)

How did the Galatians show their respect for Paul in the past? (14-15)

What had Paul done that may have turned some Galatians against him? (16)

3. The Jews were turning the Galatians away from him (4:17-18)

How did the Jews win the Galatians to their views?

4. He wanted Christ to be formed in them, but had doubts about their faith (4:19-20)

What must we do to have Christ formed in us?

We should be concerned about our converts' welfare and desire that they act like Christ.

A. _____ from Abraham's _____ (4:21-31)

1. Information from history (4:21-23)

Who were the children that were born by the two wives of Abraham?

Interpretation of the allegory (4:24-27)

How did these two women illustrate the covenants of Law and Promise?

Who is the "desolate" in Isaiah's prophecy (Isa 54:1)?

2. Application to the believers (28-31)

Who are the children of the Promise (4:28,31)?

Who are the persecutors and the ones being persecuted (4:29)?

What should be done with the persecutors (4:30)?

We learn from this allegory that believers must separate themselves from unbelievers.

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH IS JUST WHAT WE NEED

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