

Galatians 4:21-31

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An Appeal Against Legalism from the Provisions of the Law

Why is it irrational to place ourselves under The Law?

The Law cannot...

declare us righteous before God (3:11)

govern our fellowship (2:12-14)

sanctify us (3:3)

coexist with grace (5:4)

be kept partially without cursing us all (3:10)

3 appeals from contrast against legalism from Galatians 4

V1-11 - An appeal from our position in Christ.

V12-20 - An appeal from Paul's personal ministry

V21-31 - An appeal from the provisions of the law.

Outline

V21 - Introduction - Do you understand the fine print?

V22-24a The symbolic passage - Genesis 16

V24b- 28 - The Law and The Promise - The fine print of two conflicting covenants

V29-31 - Applications - How should we handle personal legalism and legalists?

Mt Sinai



The Fine Print

24-25 The Covenant of the Law

Symbolized by Hagar

Proceeds from Mt. Sinai where
The Law was given

Capital: Present Jerusalem

Mothers slave children

Produces a declining offspring
tied to the fortunes of the earthly
Jerusalem

26-27 The Covenant of Promise

Symbolized by Sarah

Proceeds from heaven

Capital: Heavenly Jerusalem

Mothers free children

Produces an increasing offspring
tied to the fortunes of the
heavenly Jerusalem

Implications - V28-31

The Covenant of the Law

Produces children of
the flesh

Persecutes the
children of the Spirit

Slave: No inheritance

The Covenant of Promise

Produces children of the
Spirit

Expects persecution
from those under the
Law

Free: Heir of heaven

Applications:

Cast out the bondwoman and her son

*We are not children of a bondwoman,
but of the free woman*