

A SONS AND HEIRS OF GOD (Galatians, 3: 26-29)

- ❖ How did we become heirs after being children under a tutor?
 - As we studied earlier, we are no longer children under a tutor after meeting Jesus (v. 25).
 - We become adult sons and daughters of God by faith in Christ—without a tutor (v. 26).
 - When we are baptized, we put on Christ (v. 27).
 - We are one in Christ; race, social status and gender don't matter anymore (v. 28).
 - We became sons and daughters of Abraham and “heirs according to the promise.” (v. 29).

B HEIRS BEFORE CHRIST: SLAVES (Galatians, 4: 1-3)

- ❖ Before Jesus came, Israel was “in bondage under the elements of the world.” (v. 3).
- ❖ Those “elements” are the ABC, the basic principles of the faith in this case. They are the ceremonial laws that acted as Israel's tutor. They were a basic gospel, just a shadow of what was to come.

C GOD SENT HIS SON (Galatians, 4: 4)

- ❖ Jesus came to Earth as part of a foretold divine plan, not by chance.
- ❖ Although He was God, He was born from a woman. He took our humanity to be our legal Substitute, our Savior and our High Priest.
- ❖ He was born under the Law. He fulfilled its demands and carried our condemnation.
- ❖ By His death on the cross, He met the justice of the law, which required the death of the sinner, thus gaining the right to redeem all who come to Him in true faith and surrender.

D HEIRS AFTER CHRIST: ADOPTED (Galatians, 4: 5-7)

- ❖ Jesus bought us at a price—He redeemed us—, so he released us from:
 - The devil and his tricks (Hebrews 2:14-15).
 - Death (1 Corinthians 15:26-57).
 - The power of sin that enslaves us (Romans 6:22).
 - The condemnation of the law (Galatians 4:5)

E TURNING BACK (Galatians, 4: 8-11)

- ❖ Paul showed the Galatians all the benefits of becoming heirs of God by faith in Jesus, so he's surprised they chose to turn back to the “elements” of the faith. According to verse 10, they decided to keep:
 - The days (the ceremonial Sabbaths).
 - The months (the New Moons).
 - The times (the annual feasts).
 - The years (the Sabbatical year and the Jubilee).
- ❖ They were heirs but they rejected their adoption and became slaves again.
- ❖ If we have a relationship with God based on laws and rules only, we're missing the privilege of living like SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GOD.