

“HOW COULD YOU TURN BACK AGAIN TO LEGALISM?”

(Galatians 4:8-11)

I. PAUL DEFENDS HIS AUTHORITY AND THE ORIGINATION OF HIS GOSPEL (Gal. 1 & 2)

II. PAUL DEFENDS JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH (Gal. 3 & 4)

A. The PROOFS that the Gospel of GRACE is true (3:1-29)

B. The POSITION of SONSHIP in Christ (4:1-7)

1. Paul's illustration from Roman culture (4:1-2)

2. Paul's explanation of redemption and adoption (4:3-5)

3. Paul's personal application (4:6-7)

4. Paul's exhortation to their legalism (4:8-11)

a. The Apostle reminded the Galatians of their pagan past before they had trusted Christ, he said, “*when you did not _____ God, you _____ (like a slave) those which by nature are not gods.*” (4:8)

b. It was of the utmost importance that the Galatians recognize that they had come to _____ God personally, and they were now in a personal _____ with God who had come to “_____” them in a relational way. (4:9a)

c. Paul rebuked the Galatian believers for their legalistic mindset, “*how is it that _____ again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which _____ again to be in _____?*” (4:9b)

* How is legalism described here?

* Could the Galatians claim that they were merely victims in all this?

* What is always the end result of legalism?

d. The Apostle called the Galatians out on their religious _____, their _____ based legalism, “*you observe days and months and seasons and years.*” (4:10)

* Were these “*days, months, seasons and years*” Jewish or Gentile in nature?
(Exodus 20:9-11; Numbers 10:10; Leviticus 23; 25:1-11)

Intermission

The Biblical Doctrine of the Sabbath

A. The Sabbath from Creation to Israel

1. The Sabbath first appeared in Scripture as the day of God’s _____ after creation (Gen. 2:1-3)
2. From Genesis 2 to Exodus 16 there is _____ mention of the Sabbath, until God instituted it for the nation of _____. (Exod. 16:23-30)

B. The Sabbath from Israel to the Church

1. Sabbath- keeping became law in the issuing of the _____ (Exod. 20:8-11); and it was to function as a _____ of God’s conditional covenant with Israel, which set them apart as a _____. (Exod. 31:13-17)
2. The penalty for not keeping the Sabbath was mandatory _____ (Exod. 31:14-15; Num. 15:32-36)
3. God predicted to the prophet Hosea that He would _____ the Sabbath and other feasts of the Lord (Hosea 2:11), presumably _____ the Church age before He would reinstitute it in the future Millennial Kingdom. (Isa. 66:23; Ezek. 46:1)

C. The Sabbath in the Church Age

1. There are _____ “holy days” of obligation under grace; however, anyone may observe any “day” as a matter of personal preference (Rom. 14:1-6), but when Jewish or Gentile “holy-days” are viewed as an _____ or _____ on Christians as standards of spirituality, this legalism must be exposed for what it is. (Col. 2:13-17; Gal. 4:9-10)
2. Under grace, Sunday is _____ the Christian’s Sabbath; but instead each and every day can be a perpetual Sabbath rest for the believer in his _____ “in Christ” and in the _____ of God. (Heb. 4:1-11)

* What was Paul afraid of in 4:11?