

A TALE OF TWO CITIES, TWO WOMEN, AND TWO SONS (Galatians 4:21-31)

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)

C. The PASTORAL CONCERN of Paul toward the Galatian Churches. (4:11-20)

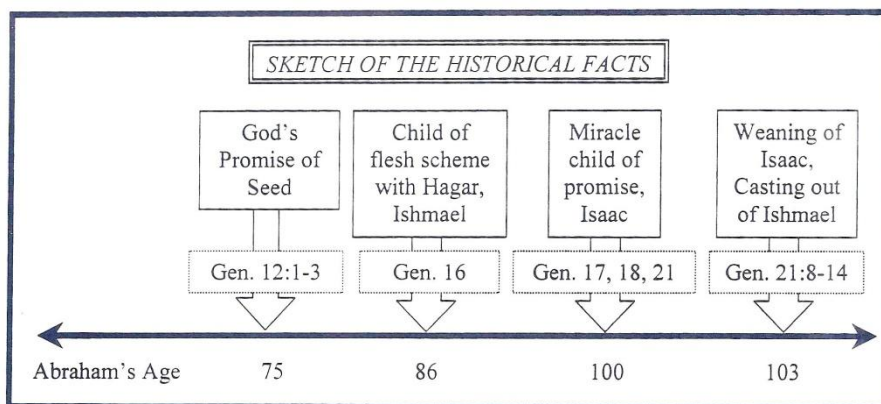
D. Paul's ANALOGY of two WOMEN and two SONS (4:21-31)

1. An appropriate “blast from the past” to further illustrate Paul’s point (4:21-31)

- a. Paul begins with a personal appeal to those desiring to be in bondage... “Tell me, you who _____ to be _____ the law, do you not hear the law?”

* The Apostle mentions the word “law” twice in v. 21, is he referring to the same thing both times?

- b. Paul highlights the historical facts with, “For it is written that Abraham had _____: the one (Ishmael) by a _____ (Hagar), the other (Isaac) by a _____ (Sarah).”



Taken from “Galatians: God’s Antidote to Legalism,” by Ron Merryman, p.10 (Figure #10)

- c. He further underscores the disparity between the two by stating that Ishmael was born according to the _____ (i.e., natural means), while Isaac was born according to _____ (i.e., a supernatural means).

2. The allegorical argument (4:24-27)

a. In v. 24 when Paul states, “*which things are* _____” in the Greek it is literally, “which things are being allegorized.”

* Why is this so important to distinguish?

* How is this different from the allegorical approach of interpreting the Bible?

b. The underlining distinction in the Apostle’s analogy is between _____ and _____.

Two mothers	Hagar was a _____	Sarah was _____ (v. 22)
Two sons	Ishmael had a _____ birth	Isaac had a _____ birth (v. 23)
Two covenants	The Law from Mt. _____	Grace from Mt. _____ (v. 24)
Two cities	_____ Jerusalem	_____ Jerusalem (v. 25-26)
Two results	_____ (v. 24)	_____ (v. 26, 31)

3. Paul’s practical application to the Galatians, and to you and me (4:28-31)

a. As believers, we are children of _____ (saved by grace through faith), and as a result we are _____ sons. (4:28)

b. As children of _____ we can expect _____ even in the form of persecution from those who are born of the flesh, just like Isaac did from Ishmael. (4:29)

c. As believers of promise and grace, we must _____ legalistic teaching and even _____ from legalistic false teachers. (4:30)

* Is this really necessary?