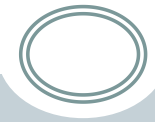


# Paul's Letter to the Galatians



# Lesson 7 - Review



- The Law as a “guardian”, “schoolmaster, “tutor”
- “Heirs according to the promise”; “offspring”
- No distinctions in Christ

# Lesson 8 – Galatians 4:8-5:1



- Introduction
- Read Galatians 4:8-5:1
- Comments/Questions

# Lesson 8 – Galatians 4:8-5:1



- 1. In Galatians 4:8-11, is Paul addressing the Jewish brethren at Galatia or the Gentile brethren?
- ❖ [Who was Paul primarily addressing in the previous section: Galatians 3:19-4:7? Jews or Gentiles? Cf. 3:23-25. 4:5]
- 2. In verse 9, is Paul concerned that the Gentile Christians are going to return to their pagan past?
- ❖ If not, what 'slavery' is he referring to?

# Lesson 8 – Galatians 4:8-5:1



- 3. If Paul is concerned that the Gentile brethren will subject themselves to bondage under the Mosaic law, what is Paul alluding to in verse 10?
  - ✦ “days”
  - ✦ “months”
  - ✦ “seasons”
  - ✦ “years”
  
- ❖ Does this mean that a Christian in that day could not observe these? For example, could a Christian Jew still observe the Sabbath?

# Lesson 8 – Galatians 4:8-5:1



- 4. In verse 11 and later in verse 20, Paul expresses concern about the spiritual future of the Galatians. On the basis of what we know about the Galatians and their problem, why is Paul so pessimistic about their future?
- 5. In verse 13, Paul mentions the “first time” (ASV) he preached the gospel to them. Does this imply he preached to them a second time?
- ❖ If so, and assuming that Paul is writing to the South Galatians, what does this tell us about the date of the letter, if anything?
- ❖ If Paul is writing to the North Galatians, what would this tell us about the date of the letter, if anything?

# Lesson 8 – Galatians 4:8-5:1



- 6. Paul refers to a physical infirmity he had. First, he says it was “because” of this infirmity that he preached to the Galatians (v. 13). Second, the Galatians did not despise him because of his infirmity (v. 14). And possibly third, Paul says that the Galatians would have been willing to give their “eyes” to him. Any guesses about what this infirmity might be (v. 15)?
- ❖ Does this infirmity necessarily involve his eyes? (Galatians 6:11)
- ❖ Could this be related to the ‘thorn in the flesh’? (2 Cor. 12:7-10)

# Lesson 8 – Galatians 4:8-5:1



- 7. In 4:21-31, Paul concludes his arguments by drawing an “allegory” (NRSV) about Sarah and her servant, Hagar.
- ❖ What is an allegory?
- ❖ What are the parallels between the story of Sarah and Hagar and the lesson Paul is making?
- ❖ What is it about this story that makes Paul want to use it in arguing to the Galatians? Or, in other words, what is the main point Paul makes by means of this allegory?