



Liberated to Live Free in Christ

a study of Galatians

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Starting where you are





Arguments to prove that God saves sinners through faith in Jesus Christ, not by works of the law:

Personal
3:1-5

Scriptural
3:6-14

Logical
3:15-29

Historical
4:1-11

Sentimental
4:12-18

Allegorical
4:19-31

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Galatians 4:1-11

- The BIG Idea: The Promised Inheritance
- Gaining the Inheritance (4:1-7)
- Forfeiting the Inheritance (4:8-11)

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The BIG Idea: Being in God's Family

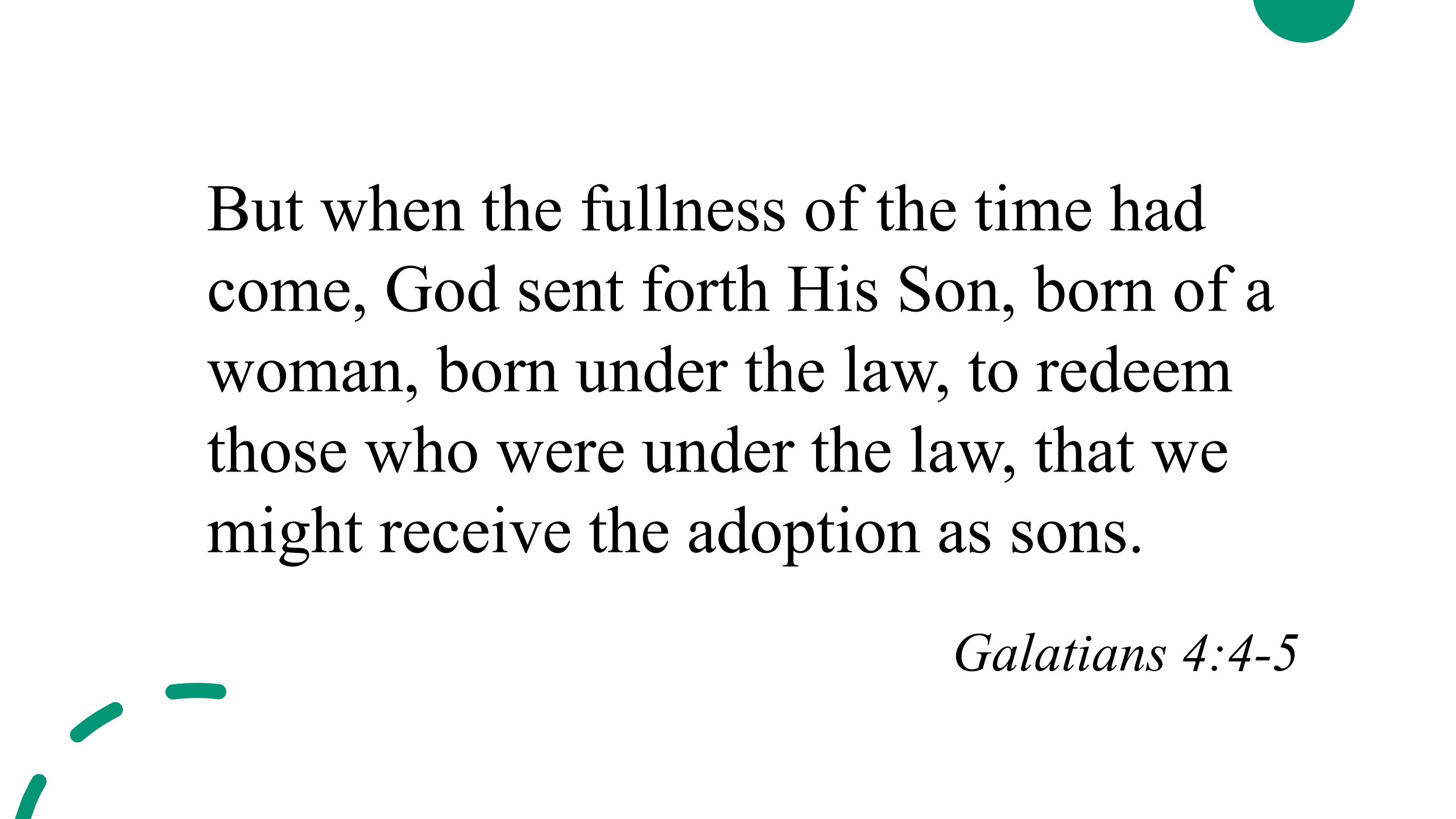
How does one enter God's family?

1. John 3:3 – Be born again.
2. Gal 4:5 – Adoption.
3. Gal 4:4; Eph 1:5 – God's predestination.
4. 1 Pet 1:25b-2:3 – As babes in need of maturation.

What are the benefits of being in God's family?

1. John 3:16; 14:3 – Eternal life with Christ.
2. Gal 4:5 – Redemption from the law.
3. Gal 4:5-7 – ID'd by sonship, not by enslavement.
4. Gal 4:6 – Spirit-filled hearts.

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But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

Gaining the Inheritance (4:1-7)

Humanity's condition (1-3)

Analogy explained (1-2)

- Minors with no rights
- Children in bondage

Analogy applied (3)

God's intervention (4-5)

- God's timing (see Mt 24:36; Mk 13:32)
- God's method (Mt 1:18-23; Lk 1:26-38)
- God's purpose (Jn 3:16-18; Rom 3:21-26; 8:3-4)

Gaining the Inheritance (4:1-7 *cont'd.*)

The believers' position (6-7)

- Relationship with the Father (Rom 8:12-17)
- Nature of the Son (Jn 14:15-18, 26-27; Acts 1:8)
- Disposition of the Spirit (Jn 16:7-15)

Believers experience the benevolence of God's mercy through the extension of God's grace to receive the blessing of God's name.

How would you explain
how God's intervention in
your life helps you
recognize your relationship
with God?



Forfeiting the Inheritance (4:8-11)

Two indications that one is/already has forfeited the inheritance of God's heir:

1. Abandon liberty by:
 - a) Trusting people who encourage bondage
 - b) Returning to elements that reinforce bondage

2. Abandon God's Spirit by following "natural" human affections (10)
 - Col 2:11-17, 20-23

Forfeiting the Inheritance (4:8-11 cont'd.)

Regrettable regression

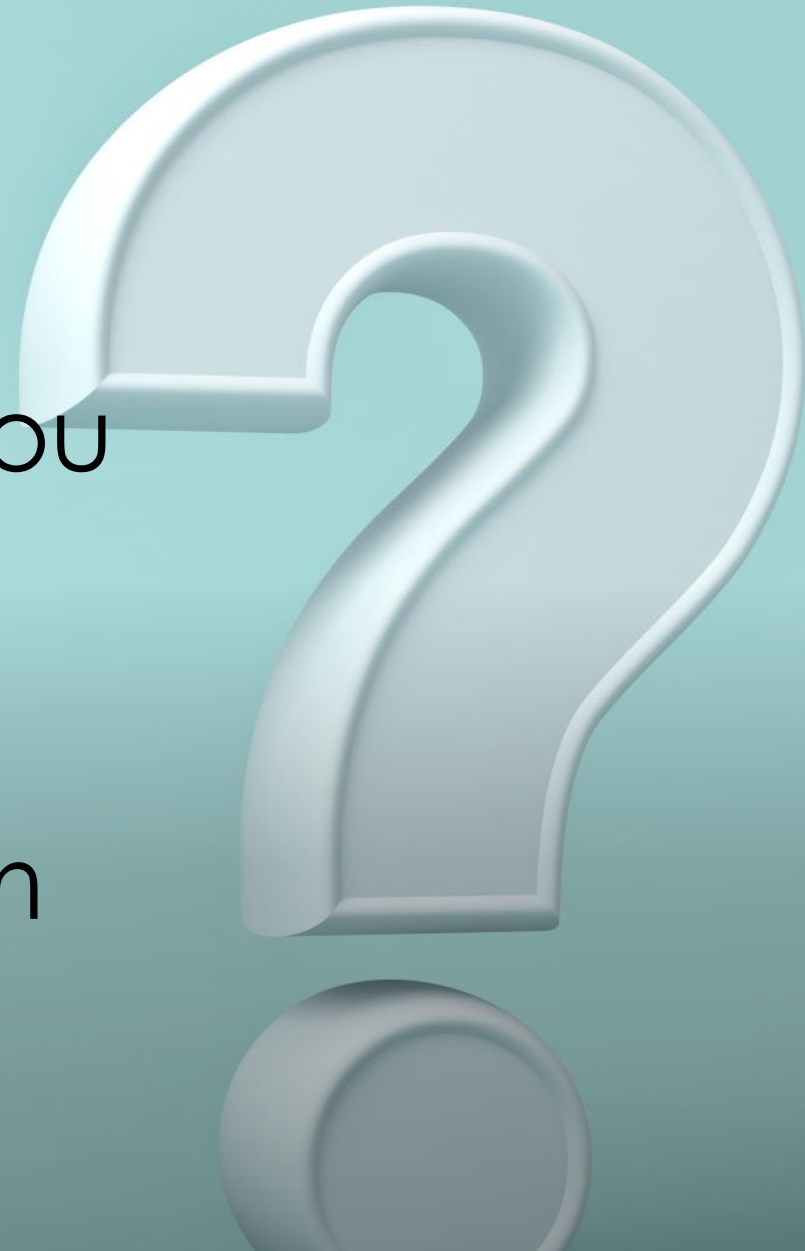
“We are no longer slaves! As we seek freedom in all its facets this phrase should be the manifesto of our emancipatory quest: ‘We are no longer slaves!’” – Brad R. Braxton (*No Longer Slaves: Galatians and African American Experience*, p. 102).

“Legalistic spirit caters to the flesh, leads to pride, and makes an outward event a substitute for the inward experience.” – Warren Wiersbe (*The Bible Exposition Commentary: Vol 1, Matthew—Galatians*, p. 707).

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What days, traditions, or people (used to) keep you from the freedom of salvation?

How were you freed from them?



Questions

