



# Fellow Heirs with Jesus as Children of God

Galatians 4:1-7



I mean that **the heir**, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup> but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup> In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might **receive adoption as sons**. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then **an heir** through God.



## Galatians 4:1

- I mean that the heir,

**The one who  
inherits.**



# Galatians 4:1

- I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under **guardians and managers** until the date set by his father.



# Look back at ch 3

## To See the Continuity of Thought



# Paul is continuing his train of thought from Galatians 3:24



## Galatians 3:24

- So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.



## Galatians 4:3

- In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.





**Both here and in v. 9 the expression refers to the elementary principles the Galatians previously followed, which for Jews would be the Mosaic law and for Gentiles the basic concepts of their pagan religions. But the additional overtones of demonic bondage in this phrase should not be ignored; they were, in terms of their mind-set and life situation, under a legalistic system and enslaved, and Paul explains in v. 8 that this enslavement was “to those that by nature are not gods.” Legalistic superstition and demonic domination are closely linked.**

*[The ESV Study Bible \(Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2008\), 2251.](#)*



**Paul is reminding each and everyone of us of our condition prior to being saved.**

**Blinded, enslaved, & dead**

**Completely alienated from God.**

Since the physical reality is we are not blind, enslaved or dead it doesn't seem like a big deal to be redeemed, delivered or rescued.



**We are spiritually blind, enslaved to sin, and dead to that which is divine.**

# Galatians 4:4



• **But** when **the fullness of time** had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,



There are at least 3  
things I can think of  
that contributed to  
achieving the fullness  
of time.



# Pax Romana

## Peace of Rome



# The Roman Empire at Its Height, A.D. 117





# Koine Greek

Supra-regional common language



ΟΙ ΤΟΥΤΟΙ ΤΗΛΕ  
ΟΥΔΕΝΑ ΙΝΑ ΟΛ  
ΤΕΝ ΕΧΟΥΝ  
ΕΝΗΚΕΙΝ  
ΠΙΟΤΟΤ  
ΚΑ' ΕΙΤΙ

ΙΤΟΙΟΝΤΕΣ ΟΙ  
ΕΛΟΝ ΤΙΣΑΙ ΑΡΤ  
ΕΙΤΗΕΔΥΝΟΕ  
Α ΕΤΑΥΤΕΝ  
ΙΤΟΥΤ  
ΟΥΟΙ

**Papyrus 52**  
John 18:31-32, 37-38



# Via Egnatia

modern day interstate





## Galatians 4:4



• God sent forth  
his Son,

**to make salvation possible**



# Divine Intentionality

## This is the Father's Plan



# Think

**John 3:16**

**Romans 5:8**



## John 3:16

- “For God so loved the world, that he gave his [one and] **only Son**, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.



## Romans 5:8

- **But God demonstrates**

His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.





**Stephen preached about  
God sending Moses—  
a type of Christ.**



## Acts 7:35

- “This Moses, whom they rejected, saying, ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge?’—**this man God sent** as both ruler and redeemer by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush.



**In the OT,  
God sent  
Moses, the  
Prophet to  
the nation  
Israel.**

**In the NT,  
God sent  
Jesus, his  
one and  
only Son to  
the world.**



## Galatians 4:4

- But when the fullness of time had come,  
God sent forth his Son, **born of  
woman, born under  
the law,**



## **Woman**

- **Mary (Joseph)**
- **All Man**

## **The Law of Moses**

- **Circumcised**
- **Perfectly Obedient**

## Galatians 4:5



• to **redeem** those who  
were under the law, so that we might  
receive adoption as sons.

# Redeem



**2: to free from what distresses or harms**

**a: to free from captivity by payment of ransom**

**b: to extricate from something detrimental**

**c: to release from blame or debt: clear**

**d: to free from the consequences of sin**

Merriam-Webster





*Teaching the* **TRUTH**

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH





## Mark 10:45

- For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



CREATION



FALL



REDEMPTION



RESTORATION

**SIN**

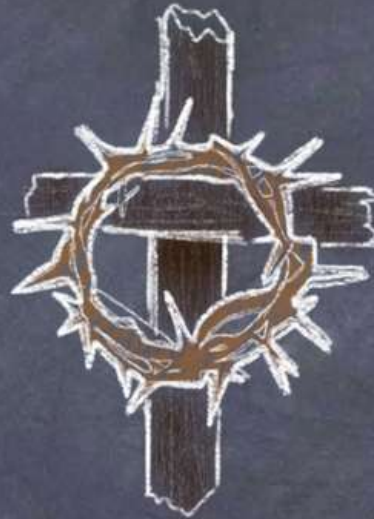
**SALVATION**



**CREATION**



**FALL**



**REDEMPTION**



**RESTORATION**





**Do you remember  
what we saw about  
Moses in Acts?**



## Acts 7:35

- “This Moses, whom they rejected, saying, ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge?’—**this man God sent as both ruler and redeemer** by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush.





**Those who are born  
again have been freed  
from the  
power and penalty  
of sin.**



**Notice Paul's point:**

**Born of a woman**

**born under the law**

**In order to redeem us**

**who also are under the law**



# How did Christ redeem us?





## Galatians 3:13

- Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law
- by becoming a curse for us — for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged **on a tree**” —



- God creates the **tree of life** in the Garden of Eden (**Gen 2:9**)
- Man fell into sin at **a tree** (**Gen 3**)
- Christ hangs on a **tree** to redeem man from the fall (**Acts 5:30, 10:29, 13:39; Gal 3:13; 1 Pet 2:24**)
- Believers have been grafted in and share of the nourishing root of the **olive tree** (**Rom 11:17**)
- Those who conquer get to eat of the **tree of life** which is in the paradise of God (**Rev 2:7, 22:19**)



## Revelation 22:19–21

- and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, **God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city,** which are described in this book. <sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! <sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.



**“Redeemed” reminds us of  
**bought and purchased**  
—all words to describe the  
legitimacy and efficacy of  
what Christ accomplished for  
those who believe.**



**In other words,  
Christ did not go through the CROSS to  
create potential**

- **salvation**
- **redemption**
- **deliverance**
- **justification**
- **adoption**



# Turn to Ephesians

## 1:3-14





<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.



## Titus 2:14

- who gave himself for us **to**  
**redeem us from all**  
**lawlessness and to purify for**  
**himself a people for his own**  
**possession** who are zealous for  
good works.



## Galatians 4:5

- to redeem those who were under the law,  
so that we might  
receive **adoption** as  
sons.

**Once reason this may not sound like much of a big deal is because of the false teaching that everyone is a child of God.**



**Everyone is created by God but not a child of God. You must be adopted into the family of God. Only Jesus did not need to be adopted.**



## Galatians 4:6

- And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “**Abba! Father!**”



# Turn to 1 John

3:1-10





# 1 John 3:1

- See what kind of love the Father has given to us, **that we should be called children of God;** and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.



# 1 John 3:10

- By this it is evident **who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil:**  
whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.



## Galatians 4:7

- So you are no longer a slave, **but a son**, and if a son, **then an heir through God.**



## Matthew 19:29

- And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold **and will inherit eternal life.**



## Matthew 25:34

- Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world.



## Acts 20:32

- And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and **to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.**





## Romans 8:16–17

- The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.



# Ephesians 1:11, 14

- In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,
- **who is the guarantee of our inheritance** until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.



## Ephesians 3:6

- This mystery is that **the Gentiles are fellow heirs**, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.



## Ephesians 5:5

- For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), **has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.**



## Colossians 3:24

- knowing that from the Lord you will **receive the inheritance as your reward.** You are serving the Lord Christ.



## Hebrews 1:1–2

- Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, **whom he appointed the heir of all things**, through whom also he created the world.





## Hebrews 9:15

- Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called **may receive the promised eternal inheritance,** since a death has occurred that **redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.**



## Hebrews 11:8

- By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that **he was to receive as an inheritance**. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.



# 1 Peter 1:3–4

- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,



## 1 Peter 1:5

- who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.



- What must I do to inherit eternal life?
- **What must I do to be redeemed?**
- What must I do to have my sins forgiven?
- **What must I do to become a child of God?**
- What must I do to be sealed with the Holy Spirit of God?

**You must believe with all your heart  
that the Creator God of the Universe  
sent his one and only Son—Jesus—the  
Christ to the earth to die for your sins.**



**You must believe that the God-man  
Jesus—the Christ died, was buried, and  
rose again on the third day to save all  
who will believe.**