

# THE PROOF OF CHRIST AS A REMINDER OF BEING RIGHT WITH GOD BY FAITH GALATIANS 4:1-7

## Galatians 4:1-7

<sup>4:1</sup> Now I say, *That* the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all;  
<sup>2</sup> But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.  
<sup>3</sup> Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:  
<sup>4</sup> But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,  
<sup>5</sup> To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.  
<sup>6</sup> And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.  
<sup>7</sup> Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

## Galatians 4:1-7 (TLB)

<sup>4:1</sup> But remember this, that if a father dies and leaves great wealth for his little son, that child is not much better off than a slave until he grows up, even though he actually owns everything his father had.  
<sup>2</sup> He has to do what his guardians and managers tell him to until he reaches whatever age his father set.  
<sup>3</sup> And that is the way it was with us before Christ came. We were slaves to Jewish laws and rituals, for we thought they could save us.  
<sup>4</sup> But when the right time came, the time God decided on, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born as a Jew,  
<sup>5</sup> to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law so that he could adopt us as his very own sons.  
<sup>6</sup> And because we are his sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, so now we can rightly speak of God as our dear Father.  
<sup>7</sup> Now we are no longer slaves but God's own sons. And since we are his sons, everything he has belongs to us, for that is the way God planned.

You are standing by your dearest friend, who has waited until the point of leaving this world to address the matter of their soul...and they look to you and ask this question, "How can I get right with God?" At that point there is no one around but you and them. What will you say? What type of answer will you offer them, in that moment they are getting ready to leave this world, and walk out into eternity. The reality of life is this...God will give you opportunities to share your faith...but what will you do with them? Will you allow God's Spirit to use you, or will you opt out and not be obedient to God's invitation? In the very church of Galatia, there was the teaching that a person was saved by the law, by being good, doing the best their best, by following the laws, rules, commandments. In the midst of all of the false teaching, God permitted his servant Paul to address these precious saints and reorient them to the truth...because what you believe matters...not only for time but for eternity. If you believe wrong...your eternity will be tragically affected.

**1. TRUTH...THERE WAS A TIME WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS IN BONDAGE.** In the very heart of Paul, he wants them to understand the truth of Christ's coming to earth. In the days of Paul, he uses an illustration from their day to drive home the truth of what a "true believer has in Christ". In the wealthiest of families, children were given guardians and trustees to manage and guard their welfare. While the managers and trustees could not "save" the child, they served as "protectors". During childhood, these children were in reality no better off than slave children...until the timing was right.

Paul is driving home a sobering reality and truth for all mankind. There was a time when each of us were under "bondage" unto the elementary things of the world. Man lives with "elementary notions" of how to be right with God. In the mind of man, he attempts to "live right", "behave right", "follow the rules", "go to church", "live a moral life". Within the mind of man, he attempts his best, doing his best, with all his reasoning and thinking power...hoping that when the time of death arrives he will go to heaven...these are a part of the "elementary notions". That was the thinking in the day of Paul. The "elementary things" are the things that man uses to get right with God and secure His approval.

The sobering reality is still this...the best that man can do is filthy rags in the sight of Holy, Pure, Almighty, Perfect God. *Isaiah 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.* To attempt to clean ourselves with "works of goodness" and "following the law" is like attempting to wash ourselves with

“dirty oily rags”. The best works are “filthy rags” in God’s sight. Doing our best is “filthy rags” before Holy God. **THE REALITY IS THIS...BEFORE COMING OF CHRIST ALL APPROACHES TO GOD WERE ELEMENTARY.** All the approaches to God did nothing to secure permanent and eternal peace with Holy God. The law was “powerless” to bring man into right relationship with God. The people of Paul’s day **THOUGHT** that “Jewish laws and rituals could save” them before God. Paul’s desire was to orient them to Christ, His life, death, burial, resurrection, and complete forgiveness by His blood. Just as there is the “fullness of time” for a child to become and heir”, there is the fullness of time when Christ came in order that we might be heirs with Him.

**2. TRUTH...IN GOD’S TIMING, HE GAVE HIS SON TO FREE MANKIND.** Many in the day of Paul would declare that they were not “in bondage”. They had not cuffs around their hands, and they thought they were free...yet they were enslaved mentally, emotionally, and spiritually to the power sin. Because of man’s bondage, God knew when the timing would be right to send His Son. The coming of Christ was not by chance, it was precisely in the timing of Holy God. It was precisely accurate on the timetable of God’s planning. Scripture makes it clear that God declared the timing in the agenda of His world. Notice these truths.

First, the very fact that God gave His Son to come into the world reveals that “the law”, “man’s goodness”, “morality”, “religious codes” were not enough for man to have a relationship with the God of the universe. It is important to note...that God didn’t send an angel to for mankind...but His very own Son. In the economy of God...it took “holy, pure, sinless, flawless, perfect life” to atone for the sins of mankind. The Bible bears out the love of God for man kind in *John 3:16*, “*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.*”

Second, while Jesus was born the way all humanity is born...there is a radical difference...Jesus is sent from God. Jesus is the very Son of God. Jesus is God covered with a human flesh. Jesus was not just a good man, but perfect, flawless, and the one that would “redeem” mankind from sin. “Redeem” literally means “to buy back”. Just as Adam sold man into sin, Jesus came, God’s Son to buy man kind back from “the slavery to sin”. Scripture declares about Jesus, “*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of the angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory.*” (1 Tim. 3:16)

Third, God sent His Son to live under “the law” in order to secure for us “perfect righteousness”. Simply put, Jesus had to obey every single law in order to stand before Holy God as the Perfect Man, the Ideal Man, The Perfect Embodiment of Righteousness. For God to accept mankind...one perfect life was required...and that life was the life of Jesus. Jesus had to secure for all mankind a “perfect righteousness” since we have none of our own...and that is what He did by his sacrificial death. “*For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh; that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* (Rom. 8:3-4)

Fourth, God’s plan was to “adopt” all who would believe into His family...and become our Father...and us His children. While all believers **DO NOT** have a righteousness of their own, God counts the person as being “in Jesus Christ”. Since Christ is God’s Son, and flawless, God counts the true believer as righteous, by his faith in the perfect, flawless Son of God. The end result...**SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GOD.** In the days of Paul, when adoption took place these things happened. 1) The adopted son was adopted **PERMANENTLY**. There could be no disinheritance. **HE BECAME A SON FOREVER.** 2) The adopted son had **ALL THE RIGHTS** of a legitimate son in the new family. 3) The adopted son completely lost all rights to his old family. The adopted son was looked upon as a new person. Since we are in Christ, who truly believe several things stand true for time and eternity. First...the believer adoption establishes a new relationship with God...**FOREVER.** Second...the believer’s adoptions establishes a new and eternal relationship with God the Father. Third...the believer’s adoption establishes a new relationship...with God as Father and immediately access into His presence. Fourth...adoption means that there is a relationship with everyone else in the family of God...a family relationship. Fifth...the adoptive person has become a new person. The believer is taken out from under the authority of the world...and placed into the family of God...under the rule of God...and in the Kingdom of God. Sixth...adoption means, we will be forever be with our Father, and Jesus at His Coming. Last...adoption means we will “rule and reign” with Christ in the new heaven and the new earth for all eternity.

