

Sermon: Do Not Be Enslaved Again

August 16, 2020

Scripture: Galatians 4:8-31

I. Paul is worried that the people are relying on _____

_____ to please God. (8-11) Col.2:16-17

II. Paul wants them to _____ their relationship. (12-20).

1. Christ living in him. Galatians 2:20

2. The Holy Spirit living within. Gal. 4:6

3. One who has shared the cross experience with Christ as the basic solution of his personal problems. Gal. 2:20.

4. One who is possessed of a life so divine and ideal that he cannot be pushed into a mold of external regulations. 4:9-11.

III. Law and grace cannot _____ (21-31)

1. Hagar represents the flesh while Sarah represents the promise. (22-23)

2. The mountain of the New Covenant (grace) is superior to the mountain of The Old Covenant (law). (24-26)

a) The Old Covenant's mountain is Sinai.: Exodus 19:12-14

b) The New Covenant's mountain is Calvary. Hebrews 8:10b-12 Romans 5:1-5

3. Christians are born supernaturally like Isaac. (28). John 3:3 Galatians 3:29.

4. Believers are instructed to separate from the children of the flesh. (30) Genesis 21:10-12; Romans 8:5-7

5. These believers were reminded that they were children of the promise. (31)

Thought for the day Paul knew the importance of a conscious contact with God as we go through this world. Contact is essential if we are to discern the will of God in our lives. The Law listed a set of rules which outlined right and wrong. Grace provided a presence in the person of the Holy Spirit, who's role was to confirm God's presence, convict of sin where necessary and reveal the truth about Jesus and God as recorded in the Bible. God called David a man after his own heart. Obviously, it was not because he was a perfect but because his heart was tender and receptive to hear God even when he didn't like what God had to say. Psalm 51 revealed a heart broken when he realized his sin of adultery and murder was a sin against God. Ravi Zacharias wrote in his book *The Grand Weaver*, "*Only if you are willing to pray sincerely for God's will to be done and are willing to live the life appointed to you will you see the breathtaking view of God that he wants you to have, through the windows he has placed in your life.* The windows in our life are the joys of family, the trials of addictions, the heartaches of grief, the heartbreak of divorce, or the mountaintop experiences of being filled with the Holy Spirit. Sometimes it's the memory of the mountain that sustains us in the valley. Grace gives us the assurance of the love of God enabling us to have the *breathtaking view of God that he wants you to have.* There are times when life seems to be out of control but knowing God is with us makes all the difference. **Romans 8:31-32** ³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? The Law implies God will give us what we earn, the flesh seeks what we want but God gives us what we need. Seeing God at work in our lives is a breathtaking view. **Pastor Bruce**