

METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES For the week of August 12 – August 18, 2017 Lesson #8 of **"The Gospel in Galatians"**



From Slaves to Heirs

Memory Text: "Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." (<u>Galatians 4:7 KJV</u>).

Read and Meditate for This Week's Study:

Galatians 3:26-4:20; Romans 6:1-11; Hebrews 4:14-15; Romans 9:4-5; John 1:14; Romans 8:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-8;

Main Thought for the Week: Because of our choices, we have been slaves to sin, but God offers us a permanent way out - adoption as sons and daughters of God. This week, we will see some additional aspects of the plan of salvation, and what these aspects mean to each one of us personally. We will also take a look at the pitfalls that the Galatians encountered and learn how we can avoid the mistakes that they made.



Our Condition in Christ

Sunday's Summary – August 13:

1. What is our relationship to God when we accept Christ's sacrifice for our sins?

Galatians 3:24-27	
Romans 8:14-15	
James 2:5	

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: The term "**son**" as used by Paul in these verses, is not exclusive to males. Paul clearly includes females in this category (Gal 3:28). He uses the word **sons** rather than **children** to emphasize the metaphor of family inheritance that was passed on to the male offspring. It also draws reference to the phrase "sons of God" which was the special designation of Israel in the Old Testament (Deut. 14:1, Hos. 11:1). In Christ, Gentiles now also enjoy the special relationship with God that had previously been exclusive to Israel.

PERSONAL NOTES:



Enslaved to Elementary Principles

Monday's Summary – August 14:

1. What is the purpose of "rudimentary" or "elementary" principles?

Galatians 4:1-5	
1 Peter 2:1-2	
Hebrews 5:11-14	
1 Corinthians 3:1-2	
Colossians 2:8	

ILLUMINATION: "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." … "Vain deceit" fills the minds of poor mortals. They think there is such power in themselves to accomplish great works that they realize no necessity of a higher power. Their principles and faith are "after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Jesus has not taught them this philosophy. Nothing of the kind can be found in His teachings. He did not direct the minds of poor mortals to themselves, to a power which they possessed. He was ever directing their minds to God, the Creator of the universe, as the source of their strength and wisdom. … **{1T 297.1}** – Ellen G. White, **Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1**, p. 297



"God Sent Forth His Son"

Tuesday's Summary – August 15:

1. Why did Christ have to be human in order to redeem us?

Galatians 4:4-5	-
Romans 8:3-4	-
Hebrews 2:14-18	

Discuss/Consider: Do we really understand and appreciate the extent to which the Godhead took a risk for humanity, and make a great and eternal sacrifice for the redemption of man and the protection of the universe?

ILLUMINATION: Those who are seeking the righteousness of Christ will be dwelling upon the themes of the great salvation. The Bible is the storehouse that supplies their souls with nourishing food. They meditate upon the incarnation of Christ, they contemplate the great sacrifice made to save them from perdition, to bring in pardon, peace, and everlasting righteousness. The soul is aglow with these grand and elevating themes. Holiness and truth, grace and righteousness, occupy the thoughts. Self dies, and Christ lives in His servants. In contemplation of the word their hearts burn within them as did the hearts of the two disciples while they went to Emmaus and Christ walked with them by the way and opened to them the scriptures concerning Himself. **{CT 341.2}**. – Ellen G. White, **Counsels to Parents, Teachers and Students**, p. 341



The Privileges of Adoption

Wednesday's Summary – August 16:

1.	What are some of the privileges that we receive from adoption in Christ?	
	Galatians 4:5-7	
	Ephesians 1:5-12	
	James 2:5	
	Galatians 3:29	_

Discuss/Consider: Why are there so many words and metaphors to address the work of salvation that the Godhead is involved in? (salvation, redemption, reconciliation, adoption, restoration, etc)



Why Turn Back to Slavery?

Thursday's Summary – August 17:

 What was it about the religious practices of the Galatians that Paul equated it with "turning back to slavery?"

Galatians 4:8-10		
Galatians 3:10-14		
Galatians 5:1-5		

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: The keeping of the law of God is something that man is totally unable to do in his own strength. Any system of religion or worship that we cling to, which relies on us accomplishing anything in our own strength is both slavery and idolatry. We are either relying on Christ and His Righteousness, or we are fashioning a garment of fig leaves for ourselves.

Appeal: Why not take some time today to look at all of your worship practices and religious exercises and see if there is any place where you are relying on self (or others) rather than on God.



Wrapping It All Up...

Friday's Summary – August 18:

ILLUMINATION: In the council of heaven, provision was made that men, though transgressors, should not perish in their disobedience, but, through faith in Christ as their substitute and surety, might become the elect of God predestinated unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will. God wills that all men should be saved; for ample provision has been made, in giving His only-begotten Son to pay man's ransom. Those who perish will perish because they refuse to be adopted as children of God through Christ Jesus. The pride of man hinders him from accepting the provisions of salvation. But human merit will not admit a soul into the presence of God. That which will make a man acceptable to God is the imparted grace of Christ through faith in His name. No dependence can be placed in works or in happy flights of feelings as evidence that men are chosen of God; for the elect are chosen through Christ." – Ellen G. White, "Chosen in Christ," Signs of the Times, January 2, 1893

Final Thoughts: At Metro New York World Ministry, we seek to emphasize humanity's complete reliance upon God for every aspect of our religious experience. It is God (the Godhead) Who made the plan; it is God (the Son) Who came and died; it is God (the Holy Spirit) Who works in our lives to change us into the pattern of Jesus. We encourage every listener to accept adoption into the family of God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. It is only in Him that we can be forgiven and restored to the original plan. There is nothing we can add to His work to make us acceptable in the sight of God.


