

WEEK 8

Gal 4:21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise.

Gen 16:1-4, 15 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. 2 And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.3 So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. 4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. 5 And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!" 6 But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her... 15 And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.

Gal 4:24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written,

"Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!

For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband."

ALLEGORY

"THIS MAY BE INTERPRETED ALLEGORICALLY..."

αλληγορεω: to use analogy or likeness

NIV: figuratively

KJV/NRSV/NASB: an allegory

HCSB/NLT: These things are illustrations...

Allegory in English (as genre): A story, poem, or painting in which the characters and events are symbols of something else.

Contrasts in Paul's Allegory (4:21–31)

slave woman	free woman
Ishmael	Isaac
according to flesh	through promise
Hagar	Sarah
slavery	freedom
present Jerusalem	Jerusalem above
persecuting	persecuted

POLARITY in Galatians 1-5:1

Gospel	1:5-7	Distorted gospel
Received from Jesus	1:11-12	Did not receive by/from man
Justified by faith	2:16	Justified by works
Spirit by faith	3:2	Spirit by law
Perfected by faith	3:3	Perfected by flesh
Faith	3:5	Law
Offspring of Abraham by faith	3:9,14	Offspring of Abraham by flesh
Sons	4:7	Slaves
Free woman (Sarah)	4:22	Slave woman (Hagar)
Isaac	4:22	Ishmael
Born through promise	4:23	Born through flesh
New covenant Jerusalem above	4:24-26	Old covenant Present Jerusalem Mt. Sinai
Inheritance	4:30	No inheritance
Free children	4:31	Enslaved children
Christ has set us free	5:1	Yoke of slavery

Gal 4:24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written,

"Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!

For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband."

Rev 21:1-4, 9-10 "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.... 9 Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God..."

Rev 3:12 "The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name."

Phil 3:20-21 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself."

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

"What are ways that we (the church) should challenge ourselves about our citizenship (earthly vs. heavenly)?"

- Do we actually have a developed "Christian" understanding of our *citizenship of heaven* that we could apply to all Christians of all cultures/times/earthly kingdoms?
- •Or is it strictly an "American-Christian" idea of heavenly citizenship?

Gal 4:28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman."

Gal 4:31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

CONCLUSION:

Paul is reading the Genesis/Abraham story in light of:

- Its fulfillment in Christ
- •What Jesus did in Salvation History (the OT story)
- Paul's understanding of the gospel
- and how that includes the Gentiles

God saves how/who/when He pleases



WEEK 9

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Leader Development Classes 2020

Winter Class—

*What We Believe: The GHCC Affirmation of Faith (1/12—3/1)

Spring Class—

*Christian Worldview & Apologetics (3/22-5/31)

Summer Classes—

- *Grasping God's Word (6/7-8/30)
- *Communicating God's Word (6/7 7/26)

Gal 5:2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. 3 I testify...





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定为非法团体)的会友:中国吹捧信仰自由、可 真正的自由吗? 我因为信仰搬了两次家了, 马上 第三次, 从狮马路搬到华阳, 又从华阳搬到成渝 立交, 这次又不知道搬到哪里?

今天出差刚回到家, 发现家里停水停电, 这 面刚想给小区管家打电话, 马上听到敲门声, 打 开门说是社区人员需要登记人员信息, 我配合的 做完,收拾家里的垃圾拿到楼下扔掉,顺便给物 管打电话,刚到单元门口就碰到警察,心里猜想 不会是找我的吧? 扔完垃圾就在楼下给物管打电 话,物管说小区没有停水停电;刚挂电话碰到警 察从单元门口出来,问:你是不是张某某,我 说:是、警察说:和我去保和派出所了解一下情 况? 我说: 我家里停水停电, 我得弄下, 他说:





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Gal 5:3 testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. 4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. 5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

We are already justified:

Rom 5:1, 9 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ... Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Rom 8:30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Gal 3:6, 8 just as Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"... And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith...

Final justification at the judgment?

Rom 2:13 For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.

Rom 3:4 By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar, as it is written, "That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged."

Rom 3:20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Rom 8:33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

Gal 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump. 10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. 12 I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

Gal 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



WEEK 10

Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Ezek. 36:27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Rom 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

1 Cor 6:9-11 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Eph 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.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Ps. 80:8-18 You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

9 You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
10 The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

11 It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

12 Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

13 The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

14 Turn again, O God of hosts!

Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine,

15 the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.

16 They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

17 But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!
18 Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name!

Isa. 5:1-7 Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

2 He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

4 What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

6 I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

4 Ezra (2 Esdras) 9:31-32 Look, I am sowing my Law in you, and it will bear fruit in you, and you will be glorified in it forever. 32 Though our parents received the Law, they didn't keep it and didn't observe what was lawful. The fruit of the Law didn't perish, nor could it, since it was yours.

John 15:1-11 I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit...4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing...10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

Gal 3:16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. 17 This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. 18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise...28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.



WEEK 11

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.





"Forgiveness comes quickly, expensively, and immediately, on repentance. But trust doesn't, cannot. If a pastor has betrayed his people, and it has wounded a church grievously and wounded his wife grievously, he can be forgiven just like that. Wiped away. The blood of Jesus covers it. But as far as reestablishing trust, which is essential to a shepherd/sheep and wife/husband relationship, how long does that take? A decade? It takes a long time, a long time, until memories are healed.

And very practically I think this is what I would say: A man who commits adultery, say, in the ministry, should immediately resign and look for other work. And he should make no claim on the church at all. He should get another kind of job and go about his life humbly receiving the discipline and sitting and receiving ministry, whether in that church or in another church. And then the church should turn that around if it believes it should, not him." — John Piper

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.

BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

WHAT ABOUT CODEPENDENCY?

Codependency: a relationship where one person enables another person's destructive behavior

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.

THE LAW OF CHRIST

SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVES:

1. The Law of Love

The LoC is another way of describing the Law of Love (cf. 5:13)

2. The Teachings of Jesus

The instruction given by Jesus becomes the new Torah for the Christian Community

3. Servants like Jesus (Isa. 42:1-4; 52:13-53:12)

Those who've experienced the saving power of God in the gospel are so gripped by it that they in turn embody the gospel in their relationships with other believers

THE LAW OF CHRIST

SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVES:

4. Pattern of Christ

The LoC is to live in accordance with the pattern which was exemplified in Christ Jesus, whose self-giving on the cross becomes the paradigm for all people

5. Borrowed from the Opponents (agitators/Judaizes)

Paul is using the phrase (LoC) as a counter to the opponents

6 Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. 7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Homework:

Go through Galatians and note how the true

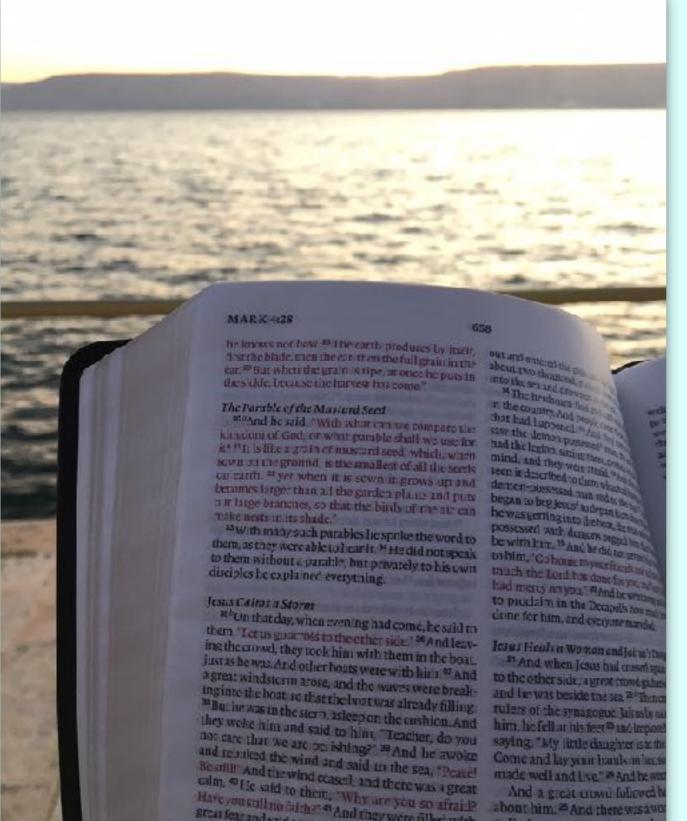
People of God are described:

- •What defines them?
- •What do they possess?
- •What makes them unique?
- Other things?



WEEK 12





Have you still no mit har 40 And they were filled with

great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this.

List even the wind and the sea obey nim?"

Jesus Heals a Man wild

And a great crowd followed

about him. And there was aw

a discharge of blook for twelv

had suffered much under many

spent all that she had and was

MARK 6:44 660 baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. # And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men. Jesus Walks on the Water *50 Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Berhsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. "And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 49 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them And about the fourth watch of the night! he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by there, 49 but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, wfor they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I. Do not be afraid." 51 And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded. so for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened. Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesures

And he sa rejecting the establish your many your father and your morber father or momer must sure! a wan tells his father or his would have gained from r given to God? 12 then yo to do anything for his farhe ing void the word of God b have tanded down: And m

What Defiles a Person

And he called the said to them, "Hear me, a s There is nothing outsi into him can defile him. our of a person are what he had entered the hou disciples asked him abou to them, Then are you a Do you not see that w from outside cannot de his heart but his stomu

Homework Review:

- **1** 4[Jesus Christ] gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age
- 2 16 we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ

3 2...Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith?

7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.

8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

11 ...for "The righteous shall live by faith."

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us...

14 ...in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. 22 ...the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 24 ...the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith...26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

4 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?

31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

- **5** For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
- 5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.
- 13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.
- 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.
- 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires

- Gal 6:11 See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.
- 2 Thes. 3:17 "I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the sign of genuineness in every letter of mine; it is the way I write."

Gal 6:12 It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

Gal 6:16 And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

6:16 "the Israel of God"

1. National Israel/Faithful Jewish remnant

A remnant of Jewish believers within the church of Jesus Christ

2. The true sons of Abraham/New Covenant People of God

Jewish and Gentile believers who constitute the new people of God (the new and true Israel)

A. ARGUMENTS FOR THE ISRAEL OF GOD AS ETHNIC ISRAEL

- 1. "and" upon the Israel of God
 - rai should be translated "and" (or also), denoting two different groups
 - the Israel of God is a separate group (or maybe overlapping) with respect to "all who follow this rule"
 - And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and/also upon the Israel of God"
- 2. In the NT, "Israel" usually refers to "ethnic Israel"
- 3. "Israel" isn't an identification for the church until Justin Martyr (AD 160)

B. ARGUMENT FOR THE ISRAEL OF GOD AS THE TRUE (SPIRITUAL) PEOPLE OF GOD

- 1. "and" upon the Israel of God
 - rai should be translated "even," denoting one specific group
 - The Israel of God is the same group of people who "follow this rule"
 - "Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God"
- 2. While the NT usages of "Israel" usually refers to "ethnic Israel," Paul also uses "Israel" in a theological sense
 - **Rom 9:6** "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."
 - **Rom 2:28** "For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical."

B. ARGUMENT FOR THE ISRAEL OF GOD AS THE TRUE (SPIRITUAL) PEOPLE OF GOD

- 3. The entire context of Galatians identifies the people of God as those having faith
 - For Paul to strive for ethnic unity through the letter (Regardless of ethnic/gender/social status) [E.g., 3:7, 9, 29]
 - To throw this out in the final sentences would only ignite tensions/a wedge amongst the Galatian Jews/Gentiles.

B. ARGUMENT FOR THE ISRAEL OF GOD AS THE TRUE (SPIRITUAL) PEOPLE OF GOD

- 4. This fits with Paul's theology of unity
 - **Phil 3:3** (believers are the true circumcision) "Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh-4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day..."
- 5. Paul has already redefined who the true offspring of Abraham are, so why can't he redefine Israel?

By bringing up the "Israel of God" in his conclusion, Paul is driving home the major theme of the letter, that believers in Christ are members of the new creation, and are the true Israel (sons of Abraham, etc). Schreiener (paraphrased)

"the Israel of God refers to the new-covenant people of God, made up of Jew/Gentile... So the Israel that counts before God, the Israel that will receive the blessings of peace and mercy, is constituted on different grounds." Moo (paraphrased)

Gal 6:17 From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus

Christ be with your spirit, brothers.

Amen.



Leader Development Classes 2020

Winter Class—

*What We Believe: The GHCC Affirmation of Faith (1/12—3/1)

Spring Class—

*Christian Worldview & Apologetics (3/22-5/31)

Summer Classes—

- *Grasping God's Word (6/7-8/30)
- *Communicating God's Word (6/7 7/26)