

16 January 2022

The Allegorical Understanding of Freedom in Christ

Galatians (part 10) 4:21-31



The story of Abraham and his wives – meanings that carry spiritual implications:

1. Hagar or Sarah?

Contrast between: _____ and _____ (vs 4:21)

(a) Slave and _____ (vs 4:22)

(b) Law and _____ (vs 4:24)

2. Ishmael or Isaac? (vs 4:22, 29)

(c) Conceived _____

(d) Conceived _____
(John 6:37, Hebrews 13:5, John 16:33, 10:28, 11:26)

3. _____ Jerusalem or _____ Jerusalem?

(e) Earthly Jerusalem _____ (vs 4:25)

(f) Heavenly Jerusalem _____ (vs 4:26)

4. Conclusion

(a) We, as believers, are the _____ (vs 4:28, 31, 29)

(b) _____ the bondwoman (vs 4:30)

Galatians 4:21-31

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? ²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. ²³But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, ²⁴which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar— ²⁵for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children— ²⁶but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. ²⁷For it is written:

*“Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear!
Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor!
For the desolate has many more children
Than she who has a husband.”*

²⁸Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. ²⁹But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. ³⁰Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.” ³¹So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.