

A Gospel Allegory on God's Grace

July 5, 2020

Pastor Mark Turner

Galatians 4:21-5:1

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

An Allegory: Key Verse: *24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically*

- Gospel is NOT that we attain a righteousness by our own abilities
- Gospel is we receive righteousness by grace through faith in God's provisions in Jesus Christ
- Allegory: stop trying to achieve (Hagar), but have faith in God (Sarah)
- Sarah - free woman²², son born via promise²³, corresponds to Jerusalem that is above. Trust God to provide what you need!
- Hagar - slave woman²², born by flesh (works), Hagar shows futility of human attempts to accomplish God's promise.

Grace for the Undeserving & Unable: Paul quotes Isaiah 54:1

- To Jewish exiles who were defeated and had lost hope
- Isaiah's prophecy: 49:8 - I'll keep you; 51:2 - that I might bless him (don't forget the promise I made); Chp 51&52 - prophecies of God's Messiah: Jesus Christ
- So 54:1 so sing O barren one! God's got this! Looks back to Gen 16
- Sarah: barren & old (hopeless); Hagar: fertile & ready
- God's ways are NOT our ways... Jesus did what we can't do: be righteous

Beware of trusting in self, instead trust God

- Beware Judaizers - saying you are too polluted to be considered sons of God w/o keeping the law
- If the Gospel is true: it doesn't matter who you are, it matters who you have faith in! Those who have faith will bear fruit!
- Gospel of Grace is those who look to Jesus, not those who work hard.
- The Gospel of Grace is for those who know they are barren
- If you think you are 'able & fertile' you've rejected the Gospel of Grace
- Those who are strong, moral, good, religious will be cast out v30.
- Be humble – receive God's amazing Grace!

How to walk & act like the son of the free woman

- Key element: Faith. Look to God's provision Gal 3:11
- Remember the cross is humbling!
- See the full extent of your sin! ^{Rm 5:8; Gal 4:5} Confess your self-confidence
- Cross leaves no room for human boasting ^{1 Cor 1:28-31} except in Christ
- Secret to defeating sin is to let Christ win your love – let His love replace all your other affections!

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