

“God Sent Forth His Son”
Galatians 4:1-7

I. Paul gives an illustration of an heir as a child (vs. 1-3)

- A. He is the owner of everything in the estate.
 - 1. He does not differ at all from a slave.
 - 2. He is under guardians and managers.
 - 3. He is in this state until the date set by the father.
- B. Believers were once held in bondage under a tutor.

(Matthew 20:8; Luke 8:3; 12:42; 16:1; Galatians 3:23)

II. Christmas was the time ordained by the Father for Jesus to be born (v. 4).

- A. God chose the exact time to send Jesus.
 - 1. The Roman Empire was flourishing.
 - 2. There was a common language throughout the Roman Empire.
 - 3. The Romans built an advanced road system.
 - 4. Jesus was born during the Pax Romana (time of peace).
 - 5. The Jews had developed the Synagogue system (places of worship, schools, courts).
- B. God chose the exact manner in which to send Jesus
 - 1. Jesus was born of a woman.
 - 2. Jesus was born under the law.

(Galatians 3:23-25; Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:15; 10:14)

III. God sent His Son and it accomplished three things (vs. 5-6).

- 1. God reconciled us to Himself.
- 2. God gave us His Spirit.
- 3. God gave us a redeemed status.

(Galatians 3:26-29; Romans 8:14-17; Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22)

Scripture References and Notes

“guardians”

- ἐπιτρόπος (epitropos)
- one to whose charge or control a thing is left
- manger, foreman, steward, guardian

Matthew 20:8

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his **foreman**, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last *group* to the first.’

Luke 8:3

...and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod’s **steward**, and Susanna, and many others who were contributing to their support out of their private means.

“managers”

- οἰκονόμος (oikonomos)
- manager of a household or estate; a steward

Luke 12:42

And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and sensible **steward**, whom his master will put in charge of his servants, to give them their rations at the proper time?

Luke 16:1

Now He was also saying to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a **manager**, and this *manager* was reported to him as squandering his possessions.

“elemental”

- στοιχεῖα (stoicheia)
- basic components of something; fundamentals

“held in bondage”

- δουλοω (douloo)
- to make someone a slave
- to make one subservient to one’s interests

Hebrews 2:17-18

¹⁷ Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin.

Hebrews 10:14

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

“redeem”

- ἔξαγοράσῃ (exagorasey)
- to secure the deliverance of

- to purchase

Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

²¹Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, ²²who also sealed us and gave *us* the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

1 Corinthians 6:19

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

Romans 8:14-17

¹⁴For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*.