

# THE SWEETNESS OF FREEDOM

GALATIANS

Sunday, May 13, 2018 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## PART 6: THE RIGHTFUL HEIR(S)

Galatians 3:15-4:7

### Things to Keep in Mind in this Passage

1. God's promises cannot be **CHANGED** or annulled. (3:15)
2. "Offspring" ultimately refers to **JESUS** – the rightful heir. (3:16)  
*(and collectively to his people)*

**LAW** = God's rules and commands given to show his people right from wrong. *(Given to Moses for the people at Mt. Sinai. Exodus 20)*

**PROMISE** = God's solemn pledge to perform or grant a specified thing. *There are many promises made by God throughout Scripture. God did not have to promise anything to sinful people, and all of his promises show his nature is characterized by grace and faithfulness.*  
***The ultimate promise is of a Redeemer (Jesus) to restore all things and rescue sinful humanity.*** *(See Genesis 3:15 and others.)*

3. Receiving the blessing of God's promise is through **FAITH** – *Believing God.* (3:18, Gen 15:6)

## Law v. Promise (19-20)

<b>Why the Law?</b>	<b>The Promise</b>
To reveal our sinfulness & that we're cursed	<i>To grant to us righteousness &amp; blessing</i>
A guardian of God's people	<i>Freedom</i>
Temporary	<i>Eternal</i>
Given through an intermediary	<i>Given by God Himself</i>

## Adopted as Sons & Therefore Heirs (3:21-4:7)

Because we are adopted as *sons*, **ALL** get the promised inheritance of eternal life and blessing. (3:26, 28-29, & 4:5-7)

It is all by **FAITH** in Jesus Christ  
and never by **WORKS!**

*For all the promises of God find their Yes in Jesus!*  
**2 Corinthians 1:20**

# 1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

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## GETTING STARTED

1. Have you ever received an inheritance? What are some things that have been passed down to you from someone else?
2. **Read Galatians 3:15-4:7.**

## DISCUSS

3. Paul references God's promise to Abraham in this passage. **Go read about it in Genesis 15.** How do the details of God's covenant-making ceremony with Abram encourage you?
4. When are you most tempted to look to your own efforts to make yourself acceptable to God?
5. To help you diagnose your own heart, ask yourself: What causes me to feel despair in life? What makes me feel proud about myself?
6. Think back to your conversion, or the first time you understood the gospel. How did your view of God's law change?
7. **Read Romans 3:20 and following.** How does knowing God's law increase your gratitude to Christ? What difference does this make to your affections?
8. Why do you obey God's law? Do you ever obey it for the wrong reasons? What are some bible verses that tell us about how the attitude with which we should obey?
9. **Read Romans 8:12-17 (even through 30 if you want extra credit!)** How do you feel about being an adopted son of God? **See also Ephesians 1:5-6, 2:1-10.**
10. Is adoption something you experience as well as understand? How can you meditate on the Son's work more, and ask the Spirit to work on your affections more?
11. When are you most in danger of living as a slave, not a son?

Many questions taken from "Galatians for You" by Timothy Keller (Purcellville, VA: The Good Book Company, 2013) and John MacArthur, Galatians: The Wonderous Grace of God, MacArthur Bible Studies (Nashville, TN: W Publishing Group, 2000).

# FREEDOM

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*Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them 1:10 Community Groups (the "1:10" comes from Colossians 1:10). The questions here are based on the sermon each week, and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a 1:10 Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.*

*During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items.  
Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.*

## Neighboring Church

Pray this week for the ministry and people of Wawasee Heights Baptist Church in Syracuse.

## Personal Prayer Items

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## Word Find for Galatians 4:1-7 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

1 I **mean** that the **heir**, as **long** as he is a **child**, is no **different** from a **slave**,  
**though** he is the **owner** of **everything**, but he is under **guardians** and  
**managers** until the **date** set by his **father**. In the **same** way we **also**, when  
 we were **children**, were  
**enslaved** to the  
**elementary principles** of  
 the **world**. But **when** the  
**fullness** of **time** had **come**,  
 God **sent forth** his Son,  
**born** of **woman**, **born**  
 under the law, to **redeem**  
 those who were under the  
 law, so that we might  
**receive adoption** as sons.  
 And **because** you are sons,  
 God has **sent** the **Spirit** of  
 his Son into our hearts,  
 crying, "Abba! **Father!**" So  
 you are no longer a **slave**,  
 but a son, and if a son, then  
 an **heir** through God.

F F D V M M R S G H S A M E  
 O A H H W O R L D R E D A H  
 R T O W N E R A H O L O N G  
 T H O U G H M V S S T P A Y  
 H E N S L A V E D E W T G U  
 A R R E C E I V E N O I E R  
 H D I F F E R E N T M O R F  
 W F S C G U A R D I A N S U  
 H B O R N N L Y I N N S V L  
 E E L E M E N T A R Y N R L  
 N C H I L D C H I L D R E N  
 D A T E E H E I R T L A D E  
 V U N P P R I N C I P L E S  
 Y S P I R I T G Y M S S E S  
 M E A N H M G Y G E C O M E