

GOD'S GOSPEL
of GRACE

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE GALATIANS

THE MAIN POINT OF GALATIANS 4:21–31

Christian, don't go back to the slavery of trying to relate to God through your effort—through trying to keep the old covenant law.

Keep trusting Jesus alone!

THE OLD TESTAMENT FOUNDATION

FOR GALATIANS 4:21–31

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According to Genesis 1-15, Abram is significant in human history because God's promise to end the curse and bless all nations will come through Abram's offspring in the land to which God led him.

THE OLD TESTAMENT FOUNDATION

FOR GALATIANS 4:21–31

1. Remember the significance of Abram in world history (Genesis 1–15).
2. Remember the time when Abram stopped trusting God and took matters into his own hands (Genesis 16–22).

According to Genesis 16-22,
God's promised blessing to all nations
will *not* come through Hagar's son Ishmael
(who was born when Abraham failed to trust God
and attempted to bring God's promises to pass
through his own effort). It will come through
Sarai's miraculous son Isaac (whom Abraham could
do nothing to produce, except simply trust God).

THE OLD TESTAMENT FOUNDATION

FOR GALATIANS 4:21–31

1. Remember the significance of Abram in world history (Genesis 1–15).
2. Remember the time when Abram stopped trusting God and took matters into his own hands (Genesis 16–22).
3. Remember the expectation that Israel as a nation would fail to obey God's law (Exodus 19 – Deuteronomy 30).

According to the law itself,
God's promised blessing to all nations
will come only after the whole nation of Israel
had failed to obey God's law. Only then would God
begin (en masse) to miraculously change people's
hearts so they'd love and obey him.

Scripture Reading

GALATIANS 4:21–31

APPLYING THE ALLEGORY TO CHRISTIANS

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3. Stop trying to be accepted by the culture that hates your Savior. Accept persecution for Jesus's sake.
4. Breathe the air of the freedom given to you by Jesus.

