

# Galatians

A black and white photograph showing two hands, one on the left and one on the right, firmly gripping vertical metal bars. The bars are spaced apart, and the hands are positioned as if they are holding onto them. The background is dark, making the hands and bars stand out.

**Family of Faith**

## Recap

**There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham 3:28-29**

**Jesus once asked “Who do people say that I am?”, now Paul is asking who do people say you are?**

# Recap

**The law is the external protection against our corrupted selves**



**The Law**



**The Holy Spirit is the inward transformation that is revealed externally by our changed heart and mind**

## Recap

After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from **every nation** and **tribe** and **people** and **language**, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. And they were shouting with a great roar, “Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!” **Revelations 7:9-10**



# **Biblical Illiteracy Isn't Funny, It's Scary,** **G. Shane Morris**

**“Moses brought water from Iraq.”**  
**Wall Street Journal**

**described Easter as “the day celebrating the idea that Jesus did not die and go to hell or purgatory or anywhere at all, but rather arose into heaven...”** **NPR**

**“I’m a bit hokey when it comes to ‘Good Friday.’ I don’t mean disrespect to the religious aspect of the day, but I love the idea of reminding folks that any day can become ‘good,’ all it takes is a little selflessness on our own part. Works EVERY time.”** **Chuck Todd, NBC**

# **Biblical Illiteracy Isn't Funny, It's Scary, G. Shane Morris**

**Writing in the Washington Post, Christine Emba admits that many Americans—particularly those in the news media—are more likely to recognize a “Harry Potter” reference than a biblical one. This is a problem because “as a reference point, the Bible is a skeleton key that unlocks hundreds of years of culture, from Shakespeare to Kehinde Wiley.”**

**Emba hints at this when she points out that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail” is virtually unintelligible without a working knowledge of The Acts of the Apostles.**

# **Biblical Illiteracy Isn't Funny, It's Scary,** **G. Shane Morris**

**But the cost of not knowing the Bible goes deeper still—past Shakespeare and Chaucer and the Magna Carta and the Civil Rights movement. Ignorance of Christianity undermines the deepest aspirations of the Western mind, and our ability to know why we have these aspirations.**

## Galatians 4:1-7

**But when the set time had fully come,  
God sent his Son, born of a woman,  
born under the law, to redeem those  
under the law, that we might receive  
adoption to sonship. vs 4-5**



## Galatians 4:1-7

**There was no process for adoption in the ancient Jewish culture.** If a man died, his brother automatically became the head of his household, so there was no need for a legal adoption process. The word adoption, during the time and context in which St. Paul spoke, referred to the Roman concept of adoption.

## Galatians 4:1-7

**An adopted child received a new identity. Any prior commitments, responsibilities and debts were erased. New rights and responsibilities were taken on. Also, in ancient Rome, the concept of inheritance was part of life, not something that began at death. Being adopted made someone an heir to their father, joint-sharers in all his possessions and fully united to him.**

## Galatians 4:1-7

And because we are his children,  
God has sent the Spirit of his Son  
into our hearts, prompting us to call  
out, “**Abba, Father.**” Now you are no  
longer a slave but God’s own child.  
**And since you are his child, God has  
made you his heir. vs 6-7 (NLT)**

## Galatians 4:8-20

I fear for you, that somehow I have  
**wasted my efforts** on you. **vs 11**

Have I now become your **enemy**  
**by telling you the truth?** **vs 16**



## Galatians 4:8-20

But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—**how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces?** Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? **vs 9**

You are observing special days and months and seasons and years! **vs 10**

## Galatians 4:8-20

You were taught, with regard to your **former way of life**, to put off your **old self**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;

**Ephesians 4:22**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: **The old has gone**, the new is here! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

For we know that our **old self was crucified with him** so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin **Romans 6:6**

and have put on **the new self**, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. **Colossians 3:10**

## Galatians 4:8-20

Those people are zealous to win you over, **but for no good**. What they want is to **alienate you from us**, so that you may have zeal for them. **vs 17**

## Galatians 4:21-31

For it is written that Abraham had **two sons**, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. **vs 22**



## Galatians 4:21-31

His son by the slave woman was born according to the **flesh**, but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a **divine promise**. **vs 23**

These things are being taken figuratively: The women represent **two covenants**. **vs 24**

# Galatians 4:21-31

## Abrahamic Covenant

**I will** make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; **I will** make your name great, and you will be a blessing. **I will** bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you **I will** curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. **Genesis 12:2-3**

## Mosaic Covenant

Now **if** you obey me fully and keep my covenant, **then** out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, **Exodus 19:5**

## Galatians 4:21-31

Now you, brothers and sisters, like Isaac, **are children of promise**. At that time the son born according to the flesh persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. **It is the same now.** vs 28-29

## Galatians 4:21-31


Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” He took him outside and said, “**Look up at the sky and count the stars**—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “**So shall your offspring be.**” **Genesis 15:4-5**



## Galatians 4:21-31

But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “**You have given me no children**; so a servant in my household will be my heir.” **Genesis 15:2-3**

Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; so she said to Abram, “**The Lord has kept me from having children.** Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her.” **Genesis 16:1-2**

The background of the entire image shows two hands, one on the left and one on the right, firmly gripping a thick, dark, textured rope. The hands are positioned as if they are pulling the rope apart, creating a central gap. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the rope and the skin of the hands against a solid black background.

**Therefore, brothers and sisters,  
we are not children of the slave  
woman, but of **the free woman**  
**(Abrahamic Covenant)**. vs 31**

**We are adopted into God's family  
**Who we are****

**There are forces trying to separate us  
**Internal and external****

**We are children of the covenant  
**Ancient foundation****