

## (4) Galatians: Freedom in Christ

Galatians: 3:23--4:7

### Our **IMPRISONMENT** before Christ.

📖 Galatians 3:23–26 (ESV) “Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.”

📖 Romans 7:7b (NIV) “...I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “Do not covet.”

### Our **IDENTITY** in Christ.

📖 Galatians 3:25–27 (ESV) “But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

📖 Galatians 3:28-29 (NIV) “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.”

### Our **INHERITANCE** in Christ.

📖 Matthew 7:13 (NIV) “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.”

📖 Galatians 4:1-5 (ESV) “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, <sup>2</sup> but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup> In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

#### **Distinctions of Justification and Adoption**

- God declares us **right** in justification.
- God declares us **loved as His children** in adoption.

### Our **INTIMACY** with Christ.

📖 Galatians 4:6-7 “And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”

📖 Romans 8:15 (NIV) “For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, “Abba, Father.”

What are you waiting on right now? Do you trust God’s timing? What new thing did you learn today? Have you ever thought of the Law as a jail cell? Are you experiencing the freedom of Christ? Discuss the distinction between justification and adoption. Do you need to broaden your understanding of the term “Abba Father?” What has been your favorite chapter of Galatians so far?

