

FREE AT LAST! THE MESSAGE OF GALATIANS
January 28 2010

The Adopting Gospel – Galatians 3:26-4:7

- 3:26-29** **I. God has made us sons.**
 “You are all sons of God...”
 cf. John 1:12; Rom. 8:14-17; Eph. 1:5; I John 3:1,2; WCF XII
- :26** A. Through faith in Christ.
 “...through faith in Christ Jesus...”
 “faith” – 5x in vv. 23-26
- :27-29** B. In union with Christ.
 “...for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”
 cf. SRSB, p. 1900
 “Christ” – 5x in vv. 26-29
- :28** 1. We are one family.
 “There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”
 cf. John 17:11, 20-23; Eph. 4:3-6
- a. Regardless of race.
 “There is neither Jew nor Greek...”
 cf. Eph. 2:14-18
- b. Regardless of rank.
 “...slave nor free...”
 cf. Col. 3:11; James 2:1-13
- c. Regardless of gender.
 “...male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”
 cf. Rom 16
- :29** 2. We are Abraham’s seed.
 “If you belong to Christ, then...”
- a. Connected to history.
 “You are Abraham’s seed...”
 cf. Rom. 11:13-21
- b. Connected to the future.
 “...and heirs according to the promise.”
 cf. II Cor. 1:20
- 4:1-7** **II. God has made us heirs.**
 cf. Rom. 8:17
- :1-3** A. Not as minors in waiting.
 “What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world.”
- :4-7** B. But as adults in fullness.
 “But when the time had fully come...”

:4-5

1. God sent His Son to redeem us.
 - a. His Person
 - fully God
“*God sent his Son...*”
cf. SRSB, p. 1544, 1700
 - fully human
“*...born of a woman...*”
cf. SRSB, p. 1649
 - perfectly obedient
“*...born under law...*”
cf. SRSB, p. 1984
 - b. His work
 - redemption
“*...to redeem those under law...*”
cf. Mt. 20:28; I Peter 1:17, 18
 - glory
“*...that we might receive the full rights of sons.*”
cf. Rom. 8:23

:6-7

2. God sent His Spirit to adopt us.
“*Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son...*”
 - a. Indwelling us.
“*...into our hearts...*”
cf. Rom. 5:5; II Cor. 1:21, 22
 - b. Entitling us.
“*...the Spirit who calls out ‘Abba, Father.’ So you are no longer a slave, but a son...*”
cf. Mt. 14:36; II Cor. 6:18; Rev. 3:12; 21:7
 - c. Enriching us.
“*...and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.*”
cf. Acts 20:32

CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

Children of the heav’nly Father safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e’er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish, in His holy courts they flourish;
From all evil things He spares them, in His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth, and their sorrows all He knoweth.

Praise the Lord in joyful numbers, your Protector never slumbers;
At the will of your Defender ev’ry foe-man must surrender.

Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne’er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

More secure is no one ever than the loved ones of the Savior;
Not yon star on high abiding nor the bird in home-nest hiding.

Carolina V. Sandell Berg, 1856