

1) Galatians: 3:23-29 Summarizes everything we've seen to this point.

God has graciously adopted us, giving us the position of sons and the privileges of sonship. We are saved by grace alone through _____ alone in Christ alone. We are made right before God, _____, before the Judge. Paul gives us an illustration of what happens when someone receives the full rights of a _____ in adoption, to describe what God does in our lives by His *offer of grace*, accepted *through faith* in *Christ*. The heirs of the promise of Abraham are all those who belong to Christ by _____ and faith alone.

All racial, cultural, social, status, gender, barriers do not exist! Vv28-29

The gospel tells the story of a spiritual adoption that changes our lives now and for eternity! We are _____ loved by God the Father.

Why are we called sons? Galatians 4:1-5 When an heir is underage, with _____ rights in the household, he is _____ different than a slave. He has guardians and trustees until such time as the _____ decides. In v3 we are told "when *we were underage*, we were in slavery under the *elemental spiritual forces* of the world." The law functions as a guardian for God's people until the appointed time determined by _____ the Father. The coming of Christ freed believers to receive their spiritual inheritance and _____ as *mature sons and daughters* of God. The law treats people as infants; such legalism produces *spiritual immaturity* leaving God's _____ in spiritual bondage.

2) Salvation in Galatians:

Galatians 1 We understood God's pleasure in us is _____ based on our performance for Him. We're not working in our own power, according to our own rules, to earn _____ approval. *That isn't gospel*. That's legalism. It's works based _____. Also, *we are to avoid hypocrisy, living lives that don't match our faith.*

Galatians 2 Is about trusting and following Christ, _____ lives reflecting His teachings. Conforming _____ to His image. *God's pleasure in _____ is based on Christ's performance _____ us.*

Galatians 3 Covers 2,000 years of OT history, the promise given to Abraham and the law given to Moses were both given to point _____ to Christ. Jesus fulfills the _____ of Moses which functions as a guardian for God's people until the time determined by _____ for Christ to come and completing God's promise to Abraham. That is why **salvation comes only through Christ! 3:24**

3) Galatians 1-3 is about justification: the gracious act of God by which He declares a sinner righteous (forgiven of sins from our past to our eternity, solely through Christ) God's forgiveness of the past together with His acceptance for the future is the *primary and fundamental blessing* of the _____. *Because it meets our primary spiritual need. Before Christ we had no peace because we had no peace with our maker. We need forgiveness of our sins, and assurance of a restored relationship with God the Father!*

4) We are loved by God the Father Adoption is the highest privilege that the gospel offers: Why? Because of the richer relationship with God that it involves. *In justification*, the picture is legal: we stand before a judge who declares you "Not Guilty". *In adoption*, He gets up off the bench, comes down to where you are and removes the chains off you and He says "Come home with Me as My son."

We are _____ by God the Father! This thought should prompt our worship, our prayer and our outlook!

Galatians: Exalting Jesus Lesson 6 Loved by God Galatians 3:26-4:7 Scriptures 1,2

Galatians 23-29: “Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. **V24** So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. **v25** Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. **V26** So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, **v27** for all of you that were baptized into Christ, have clothed yourselves with Christ. **V28** There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for all you are one in Christ Jesus. **v29** If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

Isaiah 43:6 “I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ *Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth.*”

Ezekiel 16:21 “You slaughtered my children and sacrificed them to the idols.”

Galatians 4:1-7 “What I am saying is that if an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. **V2** The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. **V3** So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. **v4** But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, **v5** to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.” **v6** Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, ‘Abba Father.’ **v7** So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.”

Ephesians 1:3-5 “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. **V4** For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight, in love **v5** he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Christ Jesus, in accordance with his pleasure and will—”

Philippians 2:5-11 “In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: **v6** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; **v7** rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. **V8** And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even to death on the cross! **V9** Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, **v10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. **V11** and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Jesus was the perfect role model for Christian unity. This views the crucifixion through the eyes of the Lord Himself. Showing His *price for unity: His death. Selfish ambition is a work of the flesh and source of division Conceit is empty glory, look not to our own interests but to the interests of others. Humility is love*

Ephesians 2:1-3 “As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins. **V2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. **V3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.” Almighty God had to reach down to rescue His people; they were dead spiritually and therefore unable to have a relationship with Him.

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Almighty God had to reach down to rescue His people; they were dead spiritually and therefore unable to have a relationship with Him.

5) God sent His Son So That We Might Receive the Position of Sons 4:4-5

God sent His Son to earth “when the time came to completion” (4:4). The timing of Jesus’ birth was intentional. His birth was the high point of a plan devised in the eternal counsel of God before the creation of the world (Ephesians 1:4). How does that happen?

Theologically the promise to Abraham had been given, the law of Moses had done its work to drive people to expect Christ. **Religiously** the paganism and idolatry had taken the culture to a _____ low. Spiritual hunger influenced the pagan culture as well as the Jewish people. **Culturally** the Greek language had become nearly universal, allowing the gospel to spread more easily to the unknown world. **Politically** Rome had conquered surrounding nations and built roads permitting travel, trade and business, taking the _____ to the world. God in His sovereignty designed _____ of history for this moment in time. It was a purposeful appointment!

6) In addition to the right timing to be adopted into God’s family, it requires the right qualifications.

Q. Who can pay the price for sinners to be saved? Only _____ possible person: Jesus! Why?

Jesus is fully divine. (Colossians 1:15) “*The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*” Meaning first in position and privilege, God did _____ create His Son; He _____ His Son, the pre-existent, fully divine, unlimited Son of God, who alone can bear the never-ending wrath of God.

Jesus is fully human. He was “_____ of a woman” (4:4) Paul makes the same point in **Philippians 2:5-11**.

Jesus is fully righteous: Born into a Jewish family, attending a Jewish synagogue, perfectly fulfilling _____ the demands of the *law of God*. If Jesus had _____ been righteous, *He would not be able to redeem unrighteous.*

7) Jesus determined to redeem us. God sent His Son “to redeem those under law, so that we might receive adoption as sons” (4:5) It was God’s pleasure and will before the creation of the world to set His affections on _____. (Ephesians 1:3-5) *The people who are adopted are objects of wrath who follow Satan.* (Ephesians 2:1-3)

Praise God that though there is nothing in _____ to draw Him to us, God determined to redeem us!!

Jesus died to rescue us. *This is not an exaggeration of our evil and sinfulness, look at God’s wrath against sin on the cross!* Thank God He sent His Son that _____ might receive the position of sons. A new status, position.

8) God Sent His Spirit So That We Might Experience the Privileges of Sonship. Living a new identity in God (3:27) We are “baptized into Christ” If you are a follower of Christ, *baptism is a fruit of obedience directed by God, not necessary to be saved.* We clothed with Christ “like a garment” our old self discarded when we become united _____ Christ. We are united in Christ v28 barriers that separate _____ are gone. “you are all one in Christ”. We don’t lose our distinctions, but we all stand before God needing Christ, dependent on Christ, and all needing grace which we all find _____ Christ alone. **This union with Christ established communion with other Christians. V29 We each belong to Christ.** This unity ties us to the OT saints; Abraham, Isaac, Moses. The Spirit transforms our intimacy with God (4:6) We are captivated by His love. We approach the same God as in **Exodus 19,20** with “boldness and confidence access through faith in Him” and cry out “Abba, Father” (Gal 4:6) for we have nothing to _____ because we have received the spirit of sonship.

9) Are you a son? If so, you are guaranteed an inheritance from God. You are heirs of God. You have an eternal family, “co-heirs with Christ”. *We are not equal to Jesus.* But we will enjoy all that Christ has for eternity as we have an eternal home. God sent His Son into the world that we might receive the position of sons. And when we trust Christ for salvation, God takes us into His home as heirs, nobody’s taking us away.