



Part 5: NO LONGER SLAVES Galatians 4:1-11 Oct. 25, 2020

- 1) Those with power have always sought to justify their exploitation of the powerless. Slavery is not a problem of one race against another, it is a problem of the human race as a whole.
- 2) In John 8:31-36 Jesus speaks of an ultimate form of slavery; slavery to sin.
- 3) What makes the temptation to sin so enticing is that it promises us some kind of pleasure or freedom, but only ends up delivering pain and bondage. It is Satan who tempts and Satan who then condemns us. He is the cruellest of masters; like a “pusher and prosecutor” all in one!
- 4) The word “redeem” implies a transaction takes place. A price has been paid. Jesus' perfect life, given in death upon the cross, was the most perfect and only adequate payment to cover our debt of sin.
- 5) The kind of freedom from we are reading about in the Scriptures means being released from slavery to being granted the rights of sons and daughters. It means moving from *slavery* to *sonship*!
- 6) It is a beautiful irony that we are no longer slaves to sin but now “slaves to righteousness”. Just as Jesus willingly humbled himself to serve others and lay down his life for us in obedience to God the Father, we are to willingly offer ourselves in service to others and to God.

:: LIFE APPLICATION

- 1) What stood out in today's message for you? Why?
- 2) What is your reaction to the estimate that there are some 40 million slaves in our world today? In what ways have you witnessed the impact of slavery in our day?
- 3) A you consider Galatians 4:1-11 what does it mean to you personally that you are no longer a slave to sin but now an adopted child of God?
- 4) Read the book of Philemon. What was your impression of Paul's relationship to Philemon? What can you imagine it was like if/when Onesimus showed up at Philemon's door?
- 5) What is your reaction to the fact that Jesus lowered himself to be a slave and servant of all? What is your reaction to the fact that you are now called to willingly do the same?