

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

428A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



© 2007

MY NAME

DATE

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES are written by Fred D. Whitelaw. They may be downloaded free of charge from our website: www.tpbs.org Make as many copies as you desire. Use them freely. These lessons are designed to promote independent thought in classroom and individual studies. Hole punch and store in 3 Ring Binders. Copyright is to preserve integrity. Each lesson must be reproduced in its entirety. Changes or partial reproductions prohibited. For consistency, all quotes are from the KJV, unless otherwise noted. 4/07

BOOK OF GALATIANS – LESSON 10

Chapter Four, Continued

- In Bondage (V25)** *“For this _____ is mount _____ in _____...”* Bible scholars find this a very difficult verse. It is said that this Sinai is a literal mountain in Arabia Petraea. Whatever the designation, it *“answereth to _____ which _____,”* meaning the Jerusalem of Paul’s day. Hagar brought forth children into bondage and Isaac’s offspring, the Jews depicted by Jerusalem, *“is in _____ with her _____.”* We do know that the bondage was physical regarding Rome and that they were a spiritually bankrupt and displaced nation.
- Heavenly Jerusalem (V26)** *“But Jerusalem which is _____ is _____, which is the _____ of us all.”* The brunt of this verse stresses that while the NT Church was established in physical Jerusalem (Acts 2) and the Word went forth from that city, the oft coined “Mother Church” moniker is heavenly and cannot, then or now, fit literal Jerusalem. Barnes: “Jerusalem was the place where God was worshipped, and hence it became synonymous with the word church, or is used to represent the people of God.” Clarke: “Jerusalem is our mother; it signifies the Church of Christ...” The Judaizers were rooted in the religious traditions of physical Jerusalem but Paul bans any connection that Jerusalem, instead of heaven, is Christ’s seat of power.
- Prophecy (V27)** *“For it is written...”* This is quoted from (Isa 54:1). To make contextual sense (V27) continues the thought of (V26) that the spiritual Jerusalem is *“mother of us all.”* Obviously it all began with the offspring of Sarah and Hagar. *“Rejoice, thou _____ that bearest _____; break forth and _____, thou that _____ not...”* The offspring of Ishmael were numerous but were not the “chosen” people of God in the OT as were Isaac’s seed. Only when Christ came would the believing Gentiles be integrated into the family of God.
- More (V27)** *“... for the _____ hath _____ more _____ than she which hath an _____.”* Sarah had a legal husband whereas Hagar was but a concubine. It was through Isaac, Sarah’s child of promise, that Jesus sprang and yet (literally) it was ultimately Hagar’s offspring that would better accept him rather than the true Israel who (Jn 1:11) *“_____ him not.”* Paul addresses this (Rom 9:6ff) by saying, *“For they are _____ all _____, which are _____ Israel.”* Remember, the “spiritual” Jerusalem, the NT Church, is *“the mother of us all.”*
- True Children (V28)** *“Now we, _____, as Isaac _____, are the _____ of _____.”* This references (Gen 21:9ff) and the enmity that still exists between the offspring of Isaac and Ishmael. Paul’s purpose is for the Galatians to understand that the Judaizers are their spiritual adversaries. The original Abrahamic promise (Gen 12:3) that *“in _____ shall _____ of the earth be _____”* reached fulfillment in the NT Church. It is imperative that the Galatians (and we also) understand there is no salvation (Acts 4:12) in any other.