

# FREEDOM IN CHRIST



Life lesson in the book of Galatians

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**GALATIANS 4:21–5:1**

**21** Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says? **22** For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman.

**23** His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise.

**24** These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar.

**25** Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children.

**26** But the Jerusalem that is above is free,  
and she is our mother. **27** For it is written:  
“Be glad, O barren woman, who bears no  
children; break forth and cry aloud, you  
who have no labor pains; because more are  
the children of the desolate woman than of  
her who has a husband.”

**28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now.**

**30 But what does the Scripture say? “Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman’s son.”**

**31** Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

**5. 1** It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.



Our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort.

**2 Peter 3:15-16**

*Hagar and Sarah*



# *Hagar*

slave

according to  
the flesh

present  
Jerusalem

persecutor  
(Ishmael)

will not inherit

# *Sarah*

free

through  
promise

Jerusalem  
above

persecuted  
(Isaac)

will inherit

*Slavery versus freedom*

**17 These people are springs without water  
and mists driven by a storm.**

**19 They promise them freedom, while they  
themselves are slaves of depravity—for  
“people are slaves to whatever has  
mastered them.”**

**2 Peter 2:17,19**



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new  
creation has come: The old has gone, the new  
is here!

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

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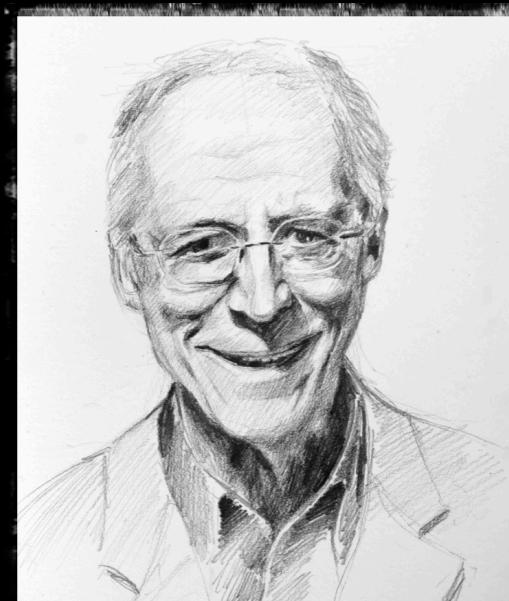
2 Corinthians 5:17

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation.

Galatians 6:15

**Why aren't the Ishmael-types free? They are not free because they lack the desire to rest in God's promises. It's not that they desire to reject God. They simply want him on their own terms.**

**John Piper**



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are you not aware of what the law says? -**

**30 But what does the Scripture say?  
“Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the  
slave woman’s son will never share in the  
inheritance with the free woman’s son.”**

**Galatians 4:21,30**



**14** Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba. **15** When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes.

**16** Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, “I cannot watch the boy die.” And as she sat there, she began to sob. **17** God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there.

**18** Lift the boy up and take him by the hand,  
for I will make him into a great nation.”

**19** Then God opened her eyes and she saw a  
well of water. So she went and filled the  
skin with water and gave the boy a drink.  
**20** God was with the boy as he grew up.

**Genesis 21:14-20**



*Live as a child of the  
promise*

*Live as a child of the promise*

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.

Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

**Galatians 5:1**



**4 Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation.**

**5 However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.**

**Romans 4:4-5**

