

**08 – Galatians 4:17-31 – Born free**

... good, upright, moral living, church attending, law keeping person who is definitely part of God's people and going to heaven?

... your 'ongoing struggle with a particular sin' might mean God would never save you?

**Paul is rightly concerned**

verse 17 ... the motives of the false teachers among them.

... a problem that we all face today.

**1) Some history**

verse 21

Firstly, Ishmael, who was born via his mother Hagar into slavery.

- Gal 4:23. Ishmael was born according to the flesh.

Secondly, Isaac, who was born to Sarai, a free woman, but she was very old and infertile.

- Isaac was born 100% due to the promises of God.
- Gal 4:23... the only explanation for Sarai falling pregnant and Isaac being born is the fulfilment of God's promises.

**2) History used figurately.**

verse 24

... the Law keepers are sort of represent by Hagar!

... law keepers of Paul's day are trying to achieve God plan of being right with God, their own way... like Abraham did with Hagar... and Ishmael was born.

verse 25 ... 'people of Jerusalem of Paul's day' tried to be right doing things their law keeping way.

Trying to be right by law keeping is like being in slavery.

Isaac ... came about 100% through God's un natural or super natural intervention according God's own promises.

verse 26 ... the 'Jerusalem of above' is connected with those who trust in God's promises NOT in law keeping.

See John 8.

verse 27 (Isaiah 54)... God's promise to Israel in Isaiah 54 is to trust him because he will rebuild and restore his people.

**3) An application**

Firstly he says that those who trust in God's promise should expect persecution.

verse 28

Secondly... to remind them that because it is in the promises of God they trust, then they can look forward to heaven

a warning in verse 30

**For us today****1) Zeal**

What are you passionate about?

**2) To those under law**

Do you have a drive towards legalism?

**3) Goodness of gospel****4) Expect persecution**