

EQUALITY OF THE PROBLEM - Galatians 4:1-8

1 Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, 2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father. 3 So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. 4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, 5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

Who do these children represent ? The true child is Jesus (not Jews), the slave are everyone else.

Paul says in **Romans 9:3-4**, *3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, 4 who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises.*

For Jews, the Gentiles were: unclean, unlawful, to be separated from—seen as children of Satan.

Job 1: *7 And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." 8 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"*

The Jews were fixated on being descendants of Abraham, not slaves: **John 8:33** *"We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" … 39 "Abraham is our father."* 44 *"You are of your father the devil."*

Jesus says*, 'before Abraham was, I am!'* not He predates Abraham, Job, Adam, and Satan.

But, who needs the gospel? - **Galatians 3:28** *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

TBC is a fellowship of believers from all over the world, where people from all over the world are saved through the gospel. Everyone here needs the gospel! Everyone are slaves! Share the gospel!

To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. **Ephesians 3:8**

Why are we not sharing the gospel and the joy we have? Same old, same old religion? Why bother?

CHASING THE TAIL - Galatians 4:8-12

8 But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. 9 But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years. 11 I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain. 12 Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you.

Christianity is the exact opposite of what religion of this world is. The religions of this world say: in order to be religious you have to work your way to know God. The message of Christianity is this: our God in Jesus Christ worked His way to us, so that we come to be known by Him.

Matthew 6: *"don't do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them"* and *"when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place"* and *"when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites... and appear to men to be fasting."*

How can you practice a religion without letting anyone see what you are doing? You can't.

Now that we are born of the Spirit, we walk in the Spirit.

Matthew 5:16, *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Good works are done to make the Father of Lights get the glory.
Pride is the motivation to be legalistic, in order to appear to be something you are not.

Application
Examine yourselves and make sure you do not rest hope in your fruit, but rather what's at your root. Do not be mistaken: we are saved by grace, through faith and not by your works.

ABOVE THE LAW - Galatians 4:19-21

Little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you, 20 I would like to be present with you now and to change my tone; for I have doubts about you. 21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law?

The danger here is not that people would lose their salvation, the danger here is that their witness and their church would turn into a Christless, spiritless, graceless religious group that follows a bunch of rules.

You cannot disciple a person who does not follow Christ. Behaviorism is worthless and sinful.

Galatians 1:9, *if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed!* This is a serious issue, because it is deeply spiritual.

We are creating our own NEW AGE religion insisting good works is to be sanctified by God, ie a "Christian."

Let us not be the accuser within the church who Satan is! Instead call on our true father crying out, "Abba! Father!" as sons and daughters, united in love without fear.

Hebrews 10:24-25 *(NLT) And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*

Do you feel a lack of joy? Live FREE without FEAR in the promise, then you will experience the joy in your relationships with Christ and with each other.

INDEPENDENCE DAY - Galatians 4:24-26, 28-31

24 …For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar—25 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children—26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.

28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. 29 But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. 30 Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." 31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

In the final example Paul gives us, he talks about two children. One is born through the flesh. The other child is born through the promise, meaning those born according to the Spirit.

The truth that sets you free to have joy: **YOU ARE NOT OF THIS WORLD.**

Jesus says in John 17:15-17, 20-21 - 15 *I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.*

20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You

This is the truth of who we really are in faith through the promise. In this way, the law, the flesh, and the devil have no hold on you because you are not of this world.

Cast out any thought that makes you live in the flesh, in bondage. That is the mistake.

Invitation
Christ removed our penalty of sin by living in complete obedience to the Father despite his sinless life, he was punished for the sins of the world. He died, was buried, and rose again on the third day. If you want to be born again by the Spirit, put your faith in Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 2:11-13
For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him. 12 If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

Jesse Cesario
Tokyo Baptist Church
February 11-12, 2023

Welcome FIRST TIME guests!

Thank you for visiting. Please send an email to gift@tokyobaptist.org for a free gift.

First time guests Connection:

COMMITMENT CARD

If you would like to believe in Jesus or have questions about baptism, we'd love to hear from you!
Email: cc@tokyobaptist.org or visit https://t-b-c.us/cc to let us know!

TBC Life SIGN-UP

weekly email news

http://t-b-c.us/tbclife

TBC CLASSES OFFERED ONLINE

class 401 Mission

Feb 19th, Sunday
1:00pm – 5:00pm

class 101 Membership

Feb 26th, Sunday
1:00pm – 5:00pm

Classes held in Lange Hall

https://t-b-c.us/classes

Small Groups Information

SG Lesson
t-b-c.us/sg0723p

SG Sign-up
t-b-c.us/sgsu

For Online Giving please visit:
https://tokyobaptist.org/give

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.