

GALATIANS

Of the Flesh vs. Of the Promise, (Pt. 1)

Galatians 4:21-26

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1. A right understanding and interpretation of _____ is needed to discern error and for healthy growth in the Christian faith.

"The apostle does not intend to question the historical truth of the story. That is to say, he does not look upon it as an allegory in itself. He simply regards it as embodying _____ which typify the bondage of those who are under law and the liberty of the people of faith." - Dr. Curtis Vaughan

2. The circumstances of Ishmael's birth to Hagar and Isaac's birth to Sarah, with both being sons of Abraham, provide important _____ for Christians.

- a. A person cannot be right with God by trusting in his own wisdom or personal effort, but only by believing God's _____.

- The _____ given to Abraham was focused on the person and work of Jesus Christ.

- b. When someone focuses on their own works to make them right with God the result is _____. It is only those who trust in the promised Savior that are truly free.

*"The better legalist a man is, the more sure he is of being _____; the more holy a man is, if he trusts to his works, the more he may rest assured of his own final rejection and eternal portion with Pharisees."
- Charles Spurgeon*

- c. "The present Jerusalem" speaks of the Judaism that mistakenly relies on family heritage and ceremonial laws for salvation. "The Jerusalem above" speaks of the _____ who is committed to and worships together--Jesus Christ the Lord.

"The New Jerusalem is not just for the future. God has already started to build His eternal city. The "new" Jerusalem has replaced the "now" Jerusalem. The spiritual Jerusalem has superseded the earthly Jerusalem in the plan of God. The _____ of the Old Testament were not for the Jews only, but they are fulfilled in the church of Jesus Christ. Anyone who receives Jesus as Savior and Lord is a son or daughter of Sarah, a true child of Abraham." - Philip Ryken