

GALATIANS

April 18, 2021

Galatians 4:21-31

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. How many sons did Abraham have (c.f., Genesis 25:2, 9)?

Why the focus on only two sons? (And which two are they?)

2. Two mothers are described but only one is named. Who are these two mothers? What are their relationships to the sons?

3. The Apostle Paul's presentation in this passage is expressed in an allegory (v. 24). What type of figure of speech is an allegory? (How does it differ from a parable?)

4. Go through the passage and fill in the contrasts for each column identified below.

Hagar/Ishmael

Sarah/Isaac

5. What would the Judaizers, or the Jews, find so offensive about Paul's presentation?

6. How is it that the literal descendants of Isaac now find themselves aligned with Hagar/Ishmael?

7. How do the readers (past & present), many of whom are Gentiles, now find themselves aligned with Sarah/Isaac (c.f., 3:7, 9)?

8. What is the (only viable) response to the Law and the flesh (v. 30)?

What might this look like? (How dramatic does this get?)

- John 3:6
- Romans 7:4
- Romans 8:13
- Luke 9:23
- Galatians 5:16

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will take up my cross and follow the Lord today by . . .

I will put to death the deeds of the body this week by . . .

I will bear fruit for God this week by . . .