

An Allegory

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Gray

Introduction

1. Text Galatians 4:21-31
2. It is necessary to understand the difference between covenants in order to understand the Bible. It is essential!
3. There are several different covenants contained in the Bible.
 - a. God and Noah Genesis 6:18; 9:9-17
 - b. God and Abram Genesis 15:18
 - c. God and Abram Genesis 17:2, 4
 - d. God remembered this covenant. Ex 2:24
 - e. God and the nation of Israel Exodus 24:7-8
 - f. Are all these the same covenant?
 - g. People today still have a misunderstanding of these covenants.
4. The Allegory
 - a. Clarke defines an Allegory that is “signifies a thing that is a representative of another where the literal sense is the representative of a spiritual meaning or as the glossary expresses it, where the thing is to be understood differently in the interpretation than it appears in the reading.
 - b. Lambert “An allegory is the description of one thing under the image of another.”
 - c. In this allegory the two covenants are presented under the image of two mothers and two sons.
5. Let us take a closer look at this allegory.

II Discussion

1. The Allegory Explained
 - a. Hagar was the first mother and Ishmael the first son
 - i. Hagar was a bond woman, slave Genesis 21:10
 - ii. Ishmael was born after the flesh, that is he was not a son of promise.
 - iii. Hagar and Ishmael were cast out, they were not to inherit with the child of promise. Genesis 21:10,14
 - iv. Hagar represented temporal Jerusalem or the Old Covenant
 - v. The conclusion is then that the Old Covenant was cast out, fulfilled. Matthew 5:17. This had been done when Paul wrote this epistle!
 - vi. Those who cling to the OT as a law for worship or service to God are like Hagar, still in bondage. Galatians 5:1-4
 - b. Sarah was the second mother, as such she was the true wife a freewoman.
 - i. Isaac was the child of promise. Genesis 22:2; Hebrews 11:18
 - ii. Sarah represented the New Covenant. As she remained in the house of Abraham after Hagar and Ishmael were cast out. Just so the new Covenant remains after the Old is done away. 2 Corinthians 3:7; Deuteronomy 4:13

- iii. The children of promise are now Christians. The seed of Abraham are those who belong to Christ through the Gospel. Galatians 3:26-29
- c. The two sons represent fleshly Israel and Christians
 - i. Ishmael, born after the flesh, represents Old Testament Israel. Vs 25
 - ii. Ishmael persecuted Isaac and was later cast out.
 - iii. Isaac, the son of promise, represents New Testament Christians. Vs 28, 31
 - iv. Just as Ishmael persecuted Isaac so Old Testament Israel persecuted the church. Vs 29

Facts about the Two Covenants

Old Covenant	New Covenant
It was for one nation. Deut 5:3	For all nations Matt. 28:18-20
Had animal sacrifices Heb 10:4	Blood of Christ 1 John 1:7
Sins remembered each year Heb. 10:3	Sins remembered no more Heb 8:12
Was to be done away. Heb 8:13; 2 Cor 3:11	Was to remain 2 Cor 3:11
Took out of the way Col 2:14	Remains 2 Cor 3:11

III Conclusion

1. Freedom is better than bondage, which do you want?
2. To be under Christ is to be free. Rom 6:17
3. Why not obey Christ and His word and be free!

Sources: Gleaning from Galatians; Sermon prepared for bro. Hearn while a student at MSOP. Sermon outlines By W.A. Shultz