

**Grace and Law Cannot Mix**  
**Galatians 4:21-31**

**I. The Appeal - 4:21**

1. Galatians inclined to embrace the law  
Legalists convincing them about Judaism  
Must add circumcision to faith in Jesus Christ  
Circumcision is sign of commitment to the law  
It meant submission to the whole law  
Christ fulfilled the law, set us free from bondage  
Righteousness comes by faith in Jesus Christ
2. If you desire law listen to what it says  
Paul uses analogy in Torah (5 books of law)  
What do we learn from Abraham?  
Abraham is the father of God's chosen people

**II. The Account - 4:22-23**

1. Abraham had two sons - 22  
Legalist's focus, being a son of Abraham  
Fact, he had two sons, one inherited the promise  
Being a physical son of Abraham is not enough
2. Consider position of the mothers - 22  
Hagar was in bondage as a servant girl  
Sarah was a free woman, Abraham's wife
3. Consider conditions of their birth - 23  
Ishmael born "after the flesh" - human effort  
Genesis 16:1-3 – Listened to Sarah  
Isaac, by God's promise – Gen. 17:15-19

**III. The Analogy - 4:24-26**

1. Two women represent 2 covenants - 24  
Hagar represents covenant of Law  
Given by God to Moses on Mt. Sinai  
Hagar in bondage as Law genders bondage  
Sarah represents covenant of Promise  
God promised Abraham a son through Sarah
2. Two women represent 2 cities – 25-26  
Hagar, earthly Jerusalem; bondage to Law  
In spite of Christ's deliverance  
Judaism still in bondage to law  
Sarah, Heavenly Jerusalem; freedom - 26  
She is the mother of all true sons of Abraham

**IV. The Application - 4:27-31**

1. Based on Biblical principle - Isaiah 54:1  
Barren woman in context is Israel in exile  
God is not finished, woman will be fruitful  
So God blessed barren Sarah with an heir
2. Believers are sons, heirs to promise  
Believers in Christ are like Isaac - 28
3. True believers suffer persecution – 29  
Son of promise was persecuted by Ishmael  
Genesis 21:9 Ishmael was mocking Isaac  
Recipients of grace are persecuted now
4. Abraham had to make a choice - 30

- Hagar and Ishmael had to be expelled  
Bondwoman & son sent away – Gen. 21:10-14  
Son of bondwoman cannot be heir  
Freewoman's son is promised heir  
Human effort & God's grace cannot mix  
God's blessing came by a promise of grace
5. Conclusion of Paul's analogy - 31  
Believers are not children of bondwoman  
Being therefore in bondage to the Law  
We are children of the freewoman  
Heirs of God's promise by grace alone  
Heirs through faith in Jesus Christ  
Abraham's seed – 3:29