

THE COMING OF MESSIAH

Anticipation of Advent

Discussion Guide
Vol. 11, No. 3
December 20, 2009

Sermon Title **The Most Wonderful Gifts From God** by Paul R. Martin

Galatians 4: 4-6

Introduction: There is no greater gift than one which comes from our own heart, from deep within ourselves, communicating the depth of our love for another person. This is the kind of Gift that God has given to us, both in His Son and in His Spirit. This is Paul's declaration in Galatians 4:4-6.

Sermon Outline

- I. **The Perfect Answer in the Perfect Time**
 - A. In the fullness of time—"sent forth" the language signifies that the Son proceeded out of the eternal nature and Being of God: of His essence and from the Father's heart.
 - B. Born of a woman—not "from" the woman but "through" the woman: God coming in human flesh and fulfilling the promise made to Eve (Genesis 3:15). God has a perfect memory and always keeps His word!
 - C. Born under law—that He might keep all of its requirements, meeting its demands, and then freeing us from it to live in Him.
- II. **God Sent Forth His Son and His Spirit**
 - A. God has given us two amazing and wonderful gifts
 - B. He has sent forth His Son, as we noted in I.A., from His very essence and Being to be our Redeemer, Savior, and Lord. He has given us the priceless gift of Jesus, His Only begotten Son.
 - C. He has also sent forth His Spirit in the same manner, of His essence and Being, that we might be partakers of the Divine Nature both now and forever. Everything we could ever possibly need has been given to us in the Son and in the Spirit.
- III. **That we Might be His Children and Heirs**
 - A. This He has done that we might receive adoption as sons—in the Jewish culture the sons inherited. This is not to leave out women of faith, but to assure us that everyone, male and female, are treated as sons and heirs equally. (In Christ there is neither male nor female, Gal 3:28.)
 - B. We are brought into intimate, familial relationship with the Father by the gift of His Spirit, whereby we cry out, "Abba, Father!" Paul wants us to understand how very close we are brought to God and how very dear we are to His heart through the perfect work of Jesus Christ.
 - C. As grown sons and daughters in this wonderful, mature season of grace, we are no longer under the elementary principles of the law but in the fullness of Christ and freedom of the Holy Spirit we are released from law to serve God from a heart of love!

Conclusion: What wonderful Gifts God the Father has given us: the gift of His Only Son and the gift of His Spirit. They have come from His heart, they are of His very essence and Being, and they have come to us to redeem, restore, indwell, and fill with the continual reality of His Presence. Praise God for His amazing Gifts!

Galatians 4:4-7

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.

Discussion Questions

1.) xx

2.) xx

3.) xx

4.) xx

5.) xx

6.) xx

7.) xx

MEMORY VERSE

God's Vision and Mission for the Alliance Bible Church

The Alliance Bible Church is a multi-cultural church celebrating the life of Christ in us by:

- Proclaiming the full message of God's Good News to the diverse cultures of McHenry and surrounding communities,
- Discipling believers in living the deeper Christian life,
- Equipping His people for the work of ministry, and
- Demonstrating the unconditional love of Jesus to our community through meaningful acts of service.

