



Galatians 4:4-5 "Born Under the Law"

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Galatians 4:1-5

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. [4-5] But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Fullness of time

The Son of God becoming a man and entering into this world was part of God's pre-determined plan and purposes.

The incarnation in v.4

- Divinity – “God sent forth his Son”
 - “his Son”
 - “sent”
- Humanity – “born of a woman”
 - “born”
 - “of a woman”

“Born under the law”

- “law”
 - Immediately – referring to the Mosaic law – Gal 3:15-24 [v.17]
 - More broadly – the fullness of God’s law that is upon all people
- Jesus came into and subject to our realm/reality
- Jesus is subject to and obligated to keep the law perfectly
- Jesus died under the law – Gal 3>13
- Voluntarily and purposefully

Twofold purpose – v.5

- Atonement
 - “to redeem those who were under the law”
- Adoption
 - “so that we might receive adoption as sons”

Under the law!



Atonement and
adoption!



Atonement

- Nature of our problem
 - We are “under the law”
- Solution to our problem
 - Being redeemed from being under the law
- “Redeem”
 - Not merely “rescue”
 - Requirement of a penalty to be paid – a redemption price – need to be redeemed
 - Only through Jesus Christ

Atonement

- Why is Jesus able to achieve our redemption
 - Is the only one who is perfectly qualified to do so
- Why? How so?
 - Born of a woman
 - Born under the law
- Being born of a woman
 - Had to dwell in this world completely and exactly, in all respects, in the same manner as people do.

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Atonement

By being born under the law:

- Voluntarily consented to being subjected to it
- Came under its curse
- Kept the law perfectly – therefore
 - Enjoyed right standing before God
 - Able to represent mankind and be the required “redemption price”
- Took upon himself the curse and judgement of the law
- Having perfectly kept the law was the only one qualified to represent and redeem sinful people
- Jesus was able to satisfy and exhaust all of the law’s penalties

Adoption

Not only redeemed – but adopted!

Two things to consider

- Our standing as “sons”
- How we should live being “sons”

Concluding remarks

We are not to seek to serve God out of fear or duty, through ritual or thinking we can win his favour by our good works – if we do this, we are revealing that we do not understand what Jesus has done on our behalf and for us in his being “born of a woman, born under the law.” Through that which Jesus has done for us, we are not only redeemed but adopted, members of God’s family. Our continuing membership of this family is certain and sure because Jesus has secured it and is not dependent on our efforts.



To God be the Glory