

Galatians 4:1-11
Overview for the Lord's Supper

- 1) God placed His chosen people Israel under guardians and stewards until His appointed [προθέσμιος] time—4:1-3
 - a) This is part of His sovereign rule to bring this along according to His purpose
- 2) God sent forth [aor. act. ind. ἐξαποστέλλω] His Son in the fullness of time—4:4
 - a) He superintended the developments within humanity so that the time was “just right” for sending His Son into our space and time.
 - b) The Son came as the Father's authorized representative
- 3) God redeemed [aor. act. subj. ἐξαγοράζω] those who were under the Law—4:5
- 4) God graced those who were under the Law with adoption [υιοθεσία] as His sons—4:5
 - a) While someone might redeem a slave, it was rare to redeem them and then make them his legal heir
- 5) God sends forth [aor. act. ind. ἐξαποστέλλω] His Spirit into the hearts of genuine believers—4:6a
 - a) The Spirit came as the Father's authorized representative
- 6) God the Spirit calls out “Abba, Father”—4:6b
 - a) Just like God the Son did in Mark 14:36.
 - b) See Romans 8:15 where **Christians** echo the Spirit's cry, “Abba, Father”
- 7) God the Father has not only made us His sons but also His heirs through Christ—4:7
 - a) What grace to be the legal heirs of the God who owns all things!
- 8) God is knowable and knows His sons—4:8-10
 - a) Remember the days of spiritual slavery when we did not know God.
 - b) Don't turn away from such a God.
 - c) We are now slaves of God— Romans 6:22; 1st Peter 2:16; Colossians 4:12
 - d) We are now slaves of other believers—Matthew 20:27; 2nd Corinthians 4:5
- 9) God alone knows if a man's labor has truly been in vain—4:11
 - a) This is a legitimate fear spiritual leaders possess for the people among whom they minister.

Take-home truth: marvel at His wisdom and grace toward us