

ALLEGORY OF HAGAR AND SARAH

INTRODUCTION

- I. Gal.3:21; cf v. 22-24
 - A. Allegory defined: Series of actions symbolic of other actions, type and antetype.”
 - B. Judaizing teachers were trying to force Gentiles to be circumcised and to keep the law as they were prone to do. Ac.15:1-6
 - 1. The Galatian Christians were drifting toward Judaism.
 - 2. Paul appeals to the LAW itself to prove to them that they should not do such. v.21
- II. Now, the ALLEGORY.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, the allegory of 2 sons: Ishmael & Isaac. v.22

- A. Birth of the 2 sons.
 - 1. Ishmael—born after the “flesh”. Gen.16:1-3
 - 2. Isaac—born after the promise. Gen.18:10-14; 21:2; Gal.4:22f
- B. What they represented.
 - 1. The women, as “mothers” of the 2 sons.
 - a. Hagar—the old covenant of bondage.
 - b. Sarah—the new covenant of freedom. Ga.4:24,26; Gen.16:15; 21:2
 - 2. The sons.
 - a. Ishmael—the Jewish church (religion) entered by physical birth.
 - b. Isaac—the church of Christ, entered by the spiritual birth.
Jn.3:3-7

II. 2nd, the analogy of 2 social ranks.

- A. Ishmael (born in domestic bondage) represents spiritual **bondage** under the LAW. Gen.16:15; 21:2; 18:10-14; Gal.5:1
- B. Isaac (born in domestic freedom) represents spiritual **freedom**. Ga.5:13; Ro.8:1-3

III. 3Rd, the analogy of character.

- A. Ishmael represents the **persecuting** character of Judaism. Gen.16:12; 21:9; Ga.4:29; Ac.8:1,3; 9A:1f
- B. Isaac represents the church which is **persecuted**. He.12:22f

IV. 4th, the analogy of the inheritance.

- A. Hagar and Ishmael were **not** part of Abraham's inheritance. Gen.21:10-14; cf Ga.4:30f
 - 1. Bread and water was a slave's portion.
 - 2. They were sent away, or cast out.
- B. Isaac received the **father's** inheritance. Gen.25:5
 - 1. Isaac's descendants received the promised land. Gen.21:12; Ro.9:7
 - 2. Christians are spiritual descendants of Abraham—children of

promise— like Isaac. Ga.4:28; 3:26-29

CONCLUSION

- I. The old covenant, with it's limited blessings, has ended. He.8:13; Ga.5:4
- II. The new covenant with it's promises is now in force, proven by the **law** itself. Ga.4:21