

Two Covenants

²¹ Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons: ^wthe one by a bondwoman, ^xthe other by a freewoman. ²³ But he *who was* of the bondwoman ^ywas born according to the flesh, ^zand he of the freewoman through promise, ²⁴ which things are symbolic. For these are ⁷the two covenants: the one from Mount ^aSinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar— ²⁵ for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children— ²⁶ but the ^bJerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.

²⁷ For it is written:

^c “*Rejoice, O barren,
You who do not bear!
Break forth and shout,
You who are not in labor!
For the desolate has many more
children
Than she who has a husband.*”

^w Gen. 16:15

^x Gen. 21:2

^y Rom. 9:7, 8; Gal. 4:29

Galatians 4:21-27 (NIV)

²¹ Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says? ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. ²³ His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise. ²⁴ These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. ²⁵ Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶ But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother.

²⁷ For it is written:

“Be glad, O barren woman, who bears no children; break forth and cry aloud, you who have no labor pains; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband.”

^z Gen. 16:15; 17:15–19; 18:10; 21:1; Gal. 4:28; Heb. 11:11

⁷ NU, M omit the

^a Ex. 24:6–8; Deut. 33:2

Galatians 4:21-27 (NA26)

²¹ Λέγετε μοι, οἱ ὑπὸ νόμον θέλοντες εἶναι, τὸν νόμον οὐκ ἀκούετε ²² γέγραπται γὰρ ὅτι Ἀβραὰμ δύο υἱοὺς ἔσχεν, ἓνα ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης καὶ ἓνα ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέρας. ²³ ἄλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης κατὰ σάρκα γεγέννηται, ὁ δὲ ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέρας δι' ἐπαγγελίας. ²⁴ ἅτινα ἐστὶν ἀλληγορούμενα· αὗται γὰρ εἰσὶν δύο διαθήκαι, μία μὲν ἀπὸ ὄρους Σινᾶ εἰς δουλείαν γεννώσα, ἣτις ἐστὶν Ἀγάρ. ²⁵ τὸ δὲ Ἀγάρ Σινᾶ ὄρος ἐστὶν ἐν τῇ Ἀραβίᾳ· συστοιχεῖ δὲ τῇ νῦν Ἱερουσαλήμ, δουλεύει γὰρ μετὰ τῶν τέκνων αὐτῆς. ²⁶ ἡ δὲ ἄνω Ἱερουσαλήμ ἐλευθέρα ἐστίν, ἣτις ἐστὶν μήτηρ ἡμῶν·

²⁷ γέγραπται γάρ·

**εὐφράνθητι, στείρα ἢ οὐ τίκτουσα,
ῥήξον καὶ βόησον, ἢ οὐκ ὠδίνουσα·
ὅτι πολλὰ τὰ τέκνα τῆς ἐρήμου
μᾶλλον ἢ τῆς ἐχούσης τὸν ἄνδρα.**

^b [Is. 2:2]

^c Is. 54:1

²⁸ Now ^dwe, brethren, as Isaac was, are ^echildren of promise. ²⁹ But, as ^fhe who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him *who was born* according to the Spirit, ^geven so *it is now*. ³⁰ Nevertheless what does ^hthe Scripture say? ⁱ“*Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for ^jthe son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.*” ³¹ So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

Christian Liberty

5 Stand ^a ¹fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a ^byoke of bondage.

^d Rom. 9:7, 8; Gal. 3:29

^e Acts 3:25

^f Gen. 21:9

^g Gal. 5:11

Galatians 4:28-5:1 (NIV)

²⁸ Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹ At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. ³⁰ But what does the Scripture say? “Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman’s son.” ³¹ Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

¹ It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

^h [Gal. 3:8, 22]

ⁱ Gen. 21:10, 12

^j [John 8:35]

^a Phil. 4:1

Galatians 4:28-5:1 (NA26)

²⁸ ὑμεῖς δέ, ἀδελφοί, κατὰ Ἰσαὰκ ἐπαγγελίας τέκνα ἐστέ. ²⁹ ἀλλ’ ὡσπερ τότε ὁ κατὰ σάρκα γεννηθεὶς ἐδίωκεν τὸν κατὰ πνεῦμα, οὕτως καὶ νῦν. ³⁰ ἀλλὰ τί λέγει ἡ γραφὴ **ἔκβαλε τὴν παιδίσκην καὶ τὸν υἱὸν αὐτῆς· οὐ γὰρ μὴ κληρονομήσει ὁ υἱὸς τῆς παιδίσκης μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ τῆς ἐλευθέρας.** ³¹ διό, ἀδελφοί, οὐκ ἐσμέν παιδίσκης τέκνα ἀλλὰ τῆς ἐλευθέρας.

¹ Τῇ ἐλευθερίᾳ ἡμᾶς Χριστὸς ἠλευθέρωσεν· στήκετε οὖν καὶ μὴ πάλιν ζυγῶ δουλείας ἐνέχεσθε.

¹ NU For freedom Christ has made us free; stand fast therefore, and

^b Acts 15:10; Gal. 2:4