

Rejoicing in God's Epic Plan to Save the World

Text: Galatians 4:4-5

Context - In his earliest biblical letter written to the Galatians, Paul was addressing the false teaching of the "Judaizers." This group was teaching the young Christians that they had to observe the Jewish customs and laws to truly be saved.

To rejoice in God's epic plan....

1. _____ on the fullness of time (vs. 4a)

- A. Jesus arrived in the world at the exact moment that had been planned by the Father. In the middle east and under Roman occupation, it was a time where all of the Mediterranean world had access to one another and could understand one language. Roads made for the Gospel message to travel easily.
- B. What is also remarkable is how the entire world measures our time today by the "Fullness of Time" moment of Christmas. Calendars in all cultures around the world now measure their years from the birth of Jesus Christ.

2. _____ the weight of the law (vs. 4b)

- A. Like all men, Jesus was obligated to obey God's law. Unlike anyone else, however, He perfectly obeyed that law (John 8:46; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15; 7:26; 1 Pet. 2:22; 1 John 3:5). (John MacArthur)
- B. That Christ was born under the law is very significant, because the Son of God did not perform the law or submit to it only but also suffered all its tyranny. (Martin Luther)

3. _____ the available adoption (vs. 5)

- A. Under Roman law, an adopted child was guaranteed all legal rights to his father's property, even if he was formerly a slave. He was not a second-class son; he was equal to all other sons, biological or adopted, in his father's family. (Life Application Bible)
- B. As adopted children of God, we share with Jesus all rights to God's resources. As God's heirs, we can claim what he has provided for us—our full identity as his children (see Romans 8:15–17). (Life Application Bible)