

It's All God

Galatians Series – Part 10

Scripture text – Galatians 4:21-31

Introduction

- Paul's purpose in writing this letter was to convince the churches in Galatia (and us) that right standing with God is based solely on _____ in Christ and not on our own _____.
- Now, he's going to refer to an Old Testament _____ to drive home the point.

The Story

- It's a story about _____ (circa 2000 BC). The story is best told via a timeline anchored to Abraham & Sarah's ages.

Ages:

75 (65)

85 (75)

99 (89)

100 (90)

Event:

God promises Abraham a _____

Hagar gives birth to _____

God confirms his original _____ and makes even more _____

Sarah gives birth to _____

The Point

- Paul's point is that the circumstances of the 2 births illustrate 2 different _____ to obtaining right standing with God, only 1 of which is legitimate.
 1. *The Hagar-Ishmael approach:* Trying to obtain right standing with God by taking matters into your own _____.
 - This is what Abraham did with Hagar to produce _____.
 - The birth is a metaphor for trying to obtain right standing with God through _____ means (i.e., by working for it).
 - This approach is a kind of _____.

2. *The Sarah-Isaac approach*: Where right standing with God is obtained _____ through _____.
- The birth of Isaac wasn't _____.
 - Isaac's birth is a metaphor for the Christian's _____ birth.
 - This approach leads to _____, whereby the whole burden of _____ is lifted from our shoulders

The Antecedents to Salvation

- Before a person trusts in Christ, God does 2 things, highlighting the supernatural aspect of our salvation, as well as the fact it is entirely of grace.
 1. He _____
 - "Election" is God's _____ of certain individuals for divine favor without regard to merit.
 - Election is everywhere in the _____.
 2. He _____
 - The "effectual call" is an act of God, speaking through the human proclamation of the gospel, in which he _____ a person to himself in such a way as the person responds in saving faith.
 - This work of God is necessary because of human _____ and the ability of Satan to _____ the eyes of unbelievers.

Conclusion

- The application is simple: To _____ God for our salvation and to _____ any credit for ourselves.