

I Can See Clearly Now

Galatians 4:4-7

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / December 10, 2023

Galatians 3:27-4:7 “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus, ²⁹ And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

^{4:1} I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father.

³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord. Response: **Thanks Be To God!**

I. Jesus’ birth was perfectly timed, and so is everything God has for us!

Galatians 4:4 “But when **the fullness of time** had come, God sent forth His Son...”

1 Timothy 2:5-6 “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given **at the proper time.**”

A. God’s perspective on time is different from ours.

2 Peter 3:8 “But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”

B. God’s timing is perfect.

Psalm 18:30 “This God—**His way is perfect**; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.”

C. Since God’s timing is perfect, we can wait on Him.

Psalm 37:7 “Be still before the Lord and **wait patiently for Him...**”

Lamentations 3:25 “The Lord is good to those who wait for Him”

D. Our willingness to wait on the Lord reveals how much we trust Him.

Proverbs 3:5-8 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. ⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. ⁸ It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.”

II. Jesus was the perfect Savior for sinners like you and me!

Galatians 4:4-5 “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

A. Since God sent forth His Son, He could be our Savior.

Philippians 2:5-6 “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though **He was in the form of God**, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped...”

B. Since Jesus was “born of woman,” He could be our Substitute.

Philippians 2:7 “But emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”

C. Since Jesus was born under the law, and obeyed the law perfectly, He could redeem us and change us from slaves to sons!

Galatians 4:6-7 “And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”

Romans 8:3-4 “For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. What has Christ done for you in the past that helps you to trust Him with your future?
2. Pastor Peter said “Sometimes the best thing we can do to move forward in life is look behind us.” What does that mean? Why is that difficult to do?
3. Review the 4 subpoints concerning God’s timing. Which was most helpful to you? Why?
4. Pastor Peter said the term “Abba” could be translated “Daddy” or “Papa.” Why is that important to remember? What does that tell you about how God views us? What does that tell you about how we should view Him?
5. Read Romans 8:12-17. How does it make you feel to be an “heir with Christ?” Why?