



## Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, July 27, 2025

Galatians 4:21-31 – The Jerusalem That is Above

Paul uses the story of Hagar and Sarah to differentiate between the covenant of the law, represented by Hagar and *earthly* Jerusalem, and the covenant of grace, represented by Sarah and *heavenly* Jerusalem.

Earthly ends don't always imply heavenly means.

Jesus connects earthly and heavenly Jerusalem.

We respond and apply the Word of God we have heard by desiring to be found in the heavenly Jerusalem.

May the Lord cause you to be glad and rejoice, to give honor to him because you have been made ready for the marriage of the Lamb. May you be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, the righteousness of saints. May you be blessed to be called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. May the Lord Jesus testify of you, "They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels." (Revelation 19:7-9, 3:4-5)

### Discussion Questions:

- What were the false teachers telling the Galatian believers they would have to do to inherit the blessings of Abraham?
- What was Paul's response to the false teachers? Why did he refer to Hagar and Sarah to differentiate between the covenant of the law and the covenant of grace?
- Why do we try to finish in the flesh what was begun in the Spirit? In what ways do we rationalize our actions?
- What do earthly and heavenly Jerusalem represent? How does Jesus connect earthly and heavenly Jerusalem?
- What does it mean for us to be in the Jerusalem that is from above? Why should we desire to be found in heavenly Jerusalem?
- According to 2 Peter 3, how should we live on earth now to prepare for the new heaven and earth?