

A PERSONAL PASTORAL APPEAL TO LEGALISTIC SHEEP (Galatians 4:12-20)

A. The PROOFS of Justification through Faith Alone (3:1-29)

B. The POSITION of Believers' Sonship in Christ (4:1-10)

C. The PASTORAL Concern of Paul for the Galatians (4:11-20)

1. The Concern Regarding Their Problems (4:11-12)

- a) The Galatians had departed from the one and only saving gospel of _____. (1:6-7)
- b) The Galatians also began rejecting Paul's _____ as an apostle. (1:11-2:14)
- c) Because the Galatians had deviated from the _____, now their _____ would also be off kilter. (3:3; 5:16-23)
- d) What Paul feared most for the Galatian believers was that his _____ would not result in their spiritual _____ into Christlikeness. (v. 19)
- e) Paul's exhortation to "become like me" means become "_____ in grace" (5:1), and his explanation "for I *became* like you" means either:
 - "... for I (*became*) like you (*were*)," i.e., disassociated from rabbinic _____. (Gal. 1:13-14)
 - "... for I (*was*) like you (*are*)," i.e., bound by _____. (Gal. 4:8-10)
- *Did Paul make the problem in Galatia about himself? (v. 12)*

2. The Compassion from Their Past (4:13-15)

- a) Instead of the Galatians _____ personal injury to Paul, he originally came to them with an injury yet continued to minister to them, demonstrating genuine _____ for them. (v. 13)
- b) They initially received Paul . . .
 - 1) despite his _____. (v. 13)
 - 2) and his apostolic _____. (v. 14)
 - 3) with _____ love and appreciation. (v. 15)

3. The Coldness of Their Present (4:16)

- a) When the Galatians originally _____ with Paul, they viewed him as an _____; but when they _____ with Paul, they viewed him as an _____.
- b) A faithful shepherd must always speak the _____, even when it's _____, not only with the culture but even within his own church. (2 Tim. 4:1-4)

4. The Courting of the Predators (4:17-18)

- a) Legalistic false teachers (1:7; 5:7, 10, 12; 6:12-13) often _____ you out, in order to _____ you out, that you might seek _____ out! (v. 17; cf. 5:1)
- b) God views it as “good” to seek out someone, provided we have the right _____, which may be done either in _____ or in _____. (v. 18)

5. The Care of Paul (4:19-20)

- a) In referring to the Galatian believers as “my little children,” Paul expressed genuine affection for them like a caring _____. (v. 19; cf. 1 Cor. 4:15; 1 Thess. 2:7-8, 11)
- *Did the Galatians need to be born again . . . again?*
- b) God's objective for you as a believer is to see _____. (v. 19)
- c) Paul preferred to be present with the Galatians and to change his tone from _____ to _____, depending on their repentance. (v. 20; cf. 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Cor. 7:8-9, 12)
- *Does severity of tone necessarily indicate that someone is unloving?*
 - *How does this passage apply to you personally?*