

# Realized Eschatology

70 A.D. Doctrine



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## The Covenants

“Christianity is a fulfillment of the prophecies, types and shadows of the law and not merely a “fill-in” between Judaism and another age to come. Abraham had two sons, and there was no *gap* between them. They *overlapped* a little, but Isaac ‘came on’ when Ishmael ‘went out.’ The son born of the *spirit* was given the place and inheritance of the son born of the *flesh*. Hence, this simple allegory (Gal 4:21-31) establishes the ‘Spirit of Prophecy,’ confirming prophecy’s fulfillment in the spiritual seed of Abraham through Christ (Gal 3:16, 26-29), and beyond the fall of Jerusalem these prophecies cannot be extended.” (*The Spirit of Prophecy*, P. 239)

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If there was an overlapping of the covenants, then....

- ◆ Spiritual adultery occurred from 30-70 A.D. with God’s approval (Romans 7:1-6)
  - ◆ If the old and new covenants overlapped, then Paul’s illustration would mean nothing
  - ◆ More than a decade before 70 A.D., Paul said, “*but now we have been discharged from the law*”
    - ◆ There was no overlapping of the covenants
- ◆ The cross is not the focal point in the removal of the old covenant (Colossians 2:13-15)
  - ◆ At the cross the old covenant was wiped out, taken out of the way and nailed to the cross (Colossians 2:14)
  - ◆ Triumph over sin occurred at the cross, not 70 A.D.
- ◆ The old covenant was not done away in Christ before 70 A.D. as Paul said (2 Corinthians 3:14)
- ◆ Two priesthoods were in force at the same time during 30-70 A.D. (Hebrews 7:11-14)
  - ◆ Jesus came from the tribe of Judah not Levi — He could not serve as priest while the old law was in force (v. 13-14; 8:4)
  - ◆ Law had to change to enable Jesus to serve as priest over the house of God (Hebrews 7:12, 15-17; 10:21; 3:1; 5:5-6; 6:20)
  - ◆ Jesus did not wait until 70 A.D. to become a priest, neither did He gradually become one
  - ◆ Jesus served as High Priest prior to 70 A.D., therefore, the Law was changed prior to 70 A.D.
- ◆ Peace was not made between Jews and Gentiles by the cross, and not until 70 A.D. (Ephesians 2:13-18 — “Now” v.13)
- ◆ No freedom in Christ from the law until 70 A.D., but notice (Galatians 5:1; 4:21-31)

## Christians Given the Place and Inheritance of the Jews?

An assumed purpose of Paul's allegory (Galatians 4:21-31), is used as the basis for contending that Christians were given the place and inheritance of the Jews.

"The purpose of Paul in this allegory was threefold: First, to show that Abraham had two sons which existed side by side for a time in the same household. This is a truth that is vital to the teachings of the New Testament, and will be a key factor in the study and application of prophecy. Much misapplication of scripture can be attributed to a failure to recognize this simple but vital truth. These two sons are typical of the two Israel's of God, one born after the flesh (old covenant) and the other born after the Spirit (new covenant) .... Ishmael was the first born and, as such, had the *right of primogeniture*, a right he maintained at the birth of Isaac, and even thereafter *UNTIL he was cast out or disinherited* (*The Spirit of Prophecy*, P. 29-30).

Realized Eschatology's redefinition of the allegory concludes that Ishmael was the rightful heir of Abraham "UNTIL" he was "cast out."

- ◆ Thus, we should believe that the Jews under the old covenant were the rightful heirs of the inheritance, but were "cast out" at 70 A.D. (at which time Christians took their place) and received the Jews' inheritance
  - ◆ Ishmael was NEVER heir of the Abrahamic promises (Genesis 12:1-3)
  - ◆ Ishmael was simply Sarah's remedy for Abraham's lack of an heir (she gave her handmaid Hagar to Abraham, not God's (Genesis 16:1-3)
  - ◆ Before Isaac was born — God made it clear that Ishmael was NOT heir of the promises He had made. His covenant would be established with Isaac, not Ishmael (Genesis 17:15-21)
  - ◆ Since Ishmael NEVER was heir to these blessings, he could not be "disinherited" of them
    - ◆ Isaac DID NOT take Ishmael's place as heir
    - ◆ Neither did Christians take the Jew's place as heirs of God's inheritance

- ◆ Old covenant DID NOT contain the inheritance of God's Abrahamic promises
- ◆ Righteousness and justification is NOT through the law, but through faith in Christ (Galatians 2:16, 21; 3:7-14, 21-23; Romans 3:20-22)
- ◆ The law gave a knowledge of sin (Romans 3:20)
  - ◆ But no release from sin (Galatians 3:10, 12, 22-23)
- ◆ It produced "children of bondage" (Galatians 4:24)
- ◆ It contained no inheritance (Galatians 3:18-19)
  - ◆ Only a curse (Galatians 3:10-14)
- ◆ Righteousness of God through faith in Christ (Romans 3:22) is "apart from the law" (Romans 3:21)
- ◆ Therefore — the "children of promise" (Galatians 4:28 — Christians) did not receive their inheritance from the Jews of the old covenant
  - ◆ If they did — the inheritance would be "no more of promise" (Galatians 3:18)

To suggest that Christians were given the place and inheritance of the Jews is to demonstrate a terrible misunderstanding of God's promise to Abraham and how it is received. Its blessings are received through faith in Christ (Galatians 3:16-19, 23-29), NOT through the law

Our inheritance is "according to promise" NOT according to the law!

### **Allegory of Galatians 4:21-31 Denies the 70 A.D. Doctrine**

Background of the allegory is found in Galatians 3:23-29, where the inspired teacher makes four needed observations:

- ◆ V. 23 — The law of Moses was in force, and men were under it, BEFORE faith came
- ◆ Vs. 24-25 — The law was a tutor to bring men to Christ, and now that tutor was no longer needed
- ◆ V. 25 — Paul says "NOW" faith is here (56-60 A.D.)
- ◆ Vs. 26-29 — We are children of God and heirs according to promise through faith in Christ, not through the law of Moses

Paul now addresses those Christians who “desire to be under the law” (Galatians 4:21), and shows them that the law itself contains an illustration of how their desire was out of place

- ◆ Allegory (Galatians 4:21-31) uses Sarah and Hagar as the two covenants (v. 24), and their sons as the product of those covenants
- ◆ Hagar signifies the Mosaic law — which produced “children of bondage” (v. 24)
  - ◆ Verse 25 emphasizes this point of bondage (Galatians 3:10, 22; Romans 3:20)
- ◆ Sarah corresponds to the new covenant and Isaac corresponds to Christians, who are the children of promise (vs. 26-28)
- ◆ The Jews (children of bondage — v. 29), are presented as persecutors of the children of promise (Christians), just as Ishmael was the persecutor of Isaac (not “the firstborn” of Abraham)
- ◆ WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS DO?
  - ◆ Should they desire to be under the law?
  - ◆ Should they turn back to bondage by joining their persecutors?
    - ◆ NO — The allegory teaches them (and us) to not go back to the law and live under it. Why?
    - ◆ Because that would place them (and us) in the bondage of sin
  - ◆ Instead, “cast out the handmaid (old covenant) and her son (Jews with their persecutions), and live in the freedom of the new covenant (Galatians 4:30-5:4)
- ◆ God says to purge yourself from turning back to the Mosaic law, and to live as the children of promise that you are
- ◆ Do NOT live in bondage to the law and its curse, but in freedom from sin and death through faith in Christ

We CANNOT apply the allegory beyond where and how the inspired apostle of Christ applied it

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## 70 A.D. Doctrine

### HOW THE TWO COVENANTS OVERLAPPED





