

## Galatians 3.26-29: The coming of faith marks the release from the law's holding function.

1. The state of affairs before 'faith came'	20	23 Πρὸ τοῦ δὲ ἐλθεῖν τὴν πίστιν Before the coming of faith	πρὸ τοῦ + the acc. of the infinitive = before
[a] a close confinement, where the law dominated and ruled our life	21	ὑπο νόμον ἐφρουπούμεθα we were kept under guard by the law	
[b] resulting in us being held over until we could receive a gifted righteousness through Christ - quite apart from anything the law did for us	24	συγκλειόμενοι εἰς τὴν μέλλουσαν πίστιν ἀποκαλυφθῆναι. closely confined until the coming faith should be revealed ὥστε ὁ νόμος παιδαγωγὸς ἡμῶν γέγονεν εἰς Χριστόν, thus the law became a minder [guardian, babysitter] of us until Christ ἵνα ἐκ πίστεως δικαιωθῶμεν in order that [so that] we might be justified by [out of] faith	Clause of purpose
[c] a new situation where trusting what God has done for us in Christ now operates	22	25 ἐλθούσης δὲ τῆς πίστεως οὐκέτι ὑπὸ παιδαγωγόν ἐσμεν. faith having come, we are no longer under a minder	
2. Sonship for all those Paul is addressing; it comes by means of faith based on being in Christ Jesus		26 Πάντες γὰρ υἱοὶ θεοῦ ἐστε for you are all sons of God διὰ τῆς πίστεως through faith ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. in Christ Jesus	Genitive absolute
[a] Baptism into Christ is to have changed status - we wear Christ as a garment; we are seen to be 'in Him'.		27 ὅσοι γὰρ εἰς Χριστόν ἐβαπτίσθητε for everyone who has been baptised into Christ Χριστόν ἐνδύσασθε has put on Christ	
[b] This new status of being in Christ Jesus makes other, lesser differences to hardly account for anything. Certainly they are not definitive of our status before God.		28 οὐκ ἔνι Ἰουδαῖος οὐδὲ Ἕλληνας, [there is] not one Jew nor Greek οὐκ ἔνι δοῦλος οὐδὲ ἐλεύθερος, [there is] not one slave nor free οὐκ ἔνι ἄρσεν καὶ θῆλυ [there is] not one male nor female πάντες γὰρ ὑμεῖς εἰς ἐστε ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. for you are all one in Christ Jesus	
[c] To be "of Christ" = to belong to Him, to be his people, and so Abra-		29 εἰ δὲ ὑμεῖς Χριστοῦ, ἄρα τοῦ Ἀβραὰμ σπέρμα ἐστε, and if you are of Christ, then you are offspring of Abraham κατ' ἐπαγγελίαν κληρονόμοι heirs according to promise	

## Workshop - Galatians 3.26-4.7

**Galatians 4.1-7 : From a childhood under law to the entering into our inheritance as mature sons; accomplished by the Father through the timely sending of a redeeming Son and the sending forth of His Spirit to know it.**

1. The state of affairs before 'faith came' -from the perspective of the child's everyday life.

20 1 Λέγω δέ, ἐφ' ὅσον χρόνον ὁ κληρονόμος ἡπίος ἐστίν,  
I am saying that for as long a time as the inheritor is an infant child [ a minor]

genitive of comparison following διαφέρει

[a] a close confinement, where the law dominated and ruled our life

21 οὐδὲν διαφέρει δούλου κύριος πάντων ὧν,  
he, in no way differs from a slave - [although] being lord of everything -

2 ἀλλὰ ὑπὸ ἐπιτρόπους ἐστίν καὶ οἰκονόμους.  
but is under guardians and stewards

ἄχρι τῆς προθεσμίας τοῦ πατρός.  
until an appointed [date, day] of the father [= set by the father]

ἄχρι + genitive

[b] resulting in us being held over until our true Parent decides our time is right.

3 οὕτως καὶ ἡμεῖς, ὅτε ἦμεν νήπιοι,  
thus also we, when we were children

ὑπὸ τὰ στοιχεῖα τοῦ κόσμου ἦμεθα δεδουλωμένοι  
under the elements of the world we had been enslaved

ὑπο + accusative

[c] the close confinement is really a slavery for someone who is a son

22 4 ὅτε δὲ ἦλθεν τὸ πλήρωμα τοῦ χρόνου  
and when the fullness of time came [when the time set by God had reached its full term]

2. Salvation history - as to timing- is in the hand of the Father

[a] the effective salvation is the sending of His Son - for us

ἔξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ,  
God sent out [forth] his Son

γενόμενον ἐκ γυναικός  
having been born [out] of a woman

γενόμενον ὑπὸ νόμον,  
having been born under law

[a] Incarnation of the Son of God is a humiliation - a voluntary entry into our slavery

[b] Its purpose is salvation from slavery, with His life as a ransom; and a salvation to mature sonship

5 ἵνα τοὺς ὑπὸ νόμον ἐξαγοράσῃ  
in order that he might redeem [ransom] those under law

ἵνα τὴν υἰοθεσίαν ἀπόλαβωμεν  
in order that we might receive the sonship

[c] Being saved to sonship by the Father through the Son of God, leads to the Father sending forth Christ's Spirit so that, by the Spirit, we are given to know the experience of that sonship at the centre of our internal being.

[d] The result is that salvation has moved from slavery to sonship to experiencing the inheritance always intended for us by the Father.

6 Ὅτι δὲ ἐστε υἱοὶ, ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ  
that you are sons [sc. is clear] God as sent forth the spirit of his son

εἰς τὰς καρδίας ἡμῶν<sup>1</sup>, κράζον, Ἀββα ὁ πατήρ.  
into our hearts, crying out, Abba Father

7 ὥστε οὐκέτι εἶ δοῦλος ἀλλὰ υἱός  
as a result you are no longer a slave but a son

εἰ δὲ υἱός, καὶ κληρονόμος διὰ Θεοῦ.<sup>2</sup>  
and if a son, then also an heir through God.

<sup>1</sup> 1. our

2. your

<sup>2</sup> 1. through God

2. because of God

3. through Christ/Jesus

4. of God through XJ

5. through God in XJ

ὥστε + the indicative = result