

FREEDOM

(For FREEDOM Christ has set us free! Gal 5:1)

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, 17/18, 2015

Ray Davis

“The Experience of the Gospel” Galatians 3:26-4:7

“The notion that we are children of God, His own sons and daughter...is the mainspring of Christian living...Our sonship to God is the apex of creation and the goal of redemption.”—Sinclair Ferguson

The Christian life is both rational and relational.

Theology – Doxology = Dead Orthodoxy Matt15:8-9; 2Tim3:5

Doxology – Theology = Idolatry Ex20:3-7

Theology + Doxology = Becoming Whole 2Cor3:18

THEOLOGY: God Sent His Son Into the World! (4:4)

By Grace Through Faith in Jesus Christ We Are...

- ✓ Sons of God 3:26 (Security/Significance)
- ✓ Clothed in Christ 3:27 (Identity/Purpose)
- ✓ One in Christ 3:28 (Unity/Harmony)
- ✓ Heirs of Christ 3:29 (Fulfillment/Fruitfulness)

The work of the Son brings us an objective legal status, that is ours whether we feel it or not (4:4). The Spirit brings us a radically subjective experience of our legal status (4:6).

DOXOLOGY: God Sent His Spirit Into Our Hearts! (4:6)

What are its marks, its characteristics?

- ✓ A prayer life that is alive and meaningful. 4:6b “sent the Spirit”
- ✓ Deep profound passion and feeling for God. 4:6c “into our hearts”
- ✓ A sense of God’s manifested presence 4:6d “Crying”
- ✓ A confidence of His love and an assurance of an open arm welcome. 4:6e “Abba! Father!”

Are you living your life more like a cringing fearful slave or a confident fearless child of the Creator and sustainer of the Universe? 4:1-3, 7

WHOLENESS: You are no longer a slave, but a son! (4:7)

What can we do to feel less like a slave and more like a Son?

1) You need a steady healthy dose of deep theology (Study).

1Tim4:7-8

- 2)** Learn to bring Biblical truth down into your heart until it catches fire (Meditate). (Ps1:1-3)
- 3)** Ask God regularly to fill you with His Holy Spirit (Prayer). (Eph 4:18-21)
- 4)** Identify where you may be grieving (Eph4:30) or quenching (1Thess5:19) the Holy Spirit (Repent). (Unclear purpose, unbalanced schedule, unapplied truth, under nourished soul, unsupported lifestyle, unresolved conflict/Sin, unexpected loss/abuse)

“Faith is the art of holding on to things your reason has once accepted in spite of your changing moods.” - C. S. Lewis

Growing Notes

- 1)** Why do you think that the truth that we are children of God should create in us a wonder and indebtedness to God that can’t even be diminished by success or suffering (1John3:1)? The Christian life is both rational (objective/Left Brain/Theology) and relational (subjective/Right Brain/Doxology). Why is it important to have both (2Cor3:18)?
- 2)** Read Galatians 3:26-4:7. What stands out to you from this text? God sent His Son into the world (Theology/4:4). By grace through faith in Jesus Christ what four things are we (3:26-29)? Which one(s) most resonate with you? The work of the Son brings us an objective legal status, that is ours whether we feel it or not. Explain.
- 3)** The Spirit brings us a radically subjective experience of our legal status. What are its marks, its characteristics (4:6)? Which one(s) most resonate with you? What would be the differences between someone who is living like a slave compared to someone living like a son (4:7)?
- 4)** Review the list of things that you can do to help you feel less like a slave and more like a son of God. Which one(s) are most helpful for you? Review the list of ways we can grieve or quench the Holy Spirit. Which one(s) do you struggle with the most? What is God speaking to you and what are some next steps you can take to live more in the reality of your being a child of God? Pray.