

FREED TO BE FREE

The choice is simple

(Galatians 4:8-11)

Continue in freedom

Go back to slavery

They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die...Isn’t this what we told you in Egypt: Leave us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” (Exodus 14:11-12)

Personal appeal

(Galatians 4:12-20)

Paul’s appeal to their heart and relationship

...until Christ is formed in you. (Galatians 4:19)

Warning against creeping legalism

- **Powerless life**
...how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elements?
Do you want to be enslaved to them all over again? (Galatians 4:9)
- **Focus on eternal**
You are observing special days, months, seasons, and years.
(Galatians 4:10)
- **Lack of compassion**
...I preached the gospel to you because of a weakness of the flesh.
You did not despise or reject me though my physical condition was a trial for you. On the contrary, you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus himself. (Galatians 4:13-14)
- **Loss of joy**
Where is that joyful and grateful spirit you felt then?
(Galatians 4:15 NLT)
- **Judgmental**
...have I become your enemy because I told you the truth?
(Galatians 4:16)

- **Influenced by legalists**
Those false teachers are so eager to win your favor...I wish I were with you right now so I could change my tone. But at this distance I don’t know how else to help you. (Galatians 4:17,20 NLT)
- **Stumbling in slavery**
For freedom, Christ set us free. Stand firm, then, and don’t submit again to a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 5:1)

Resiliency of Grace

- Life of power
- Amazed by grace
- Compassion and generosity
- Joy
- Humility
- Influenced by the gracious
- Spiritually free

Children of Abraham: Make your choice

(Galatians 4:21-31)

Hagar: slavery, ordinary, children are slaves

Sarah: freedom, promise, children are free

But what does the Scripture say? “Drive out the slave and her son, for the son of the slave will never be a coheir with the son of the free woman.” (Galatians 4:30)

For freedom, Christ set us free. Stand firm, then, and don’t submit again to a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 5:1)

Reflection Question:

What would it look like to live in the wild freedom of God’s grace?

Scripture from the CSB unless noted.