

Galatians 4:13–31 (ESV)

¹³ You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, ¹⁴ and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. ¹⁶ Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? ¹⁷ They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. ¹⁸ It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, ¹⁹ my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! ²⁰ I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

²¹ Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. ²³ But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise.

²⁴ Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. ²⁵ Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶ But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷ For it is written, “Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband.” ²⁸ Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹ But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. ³⁰ But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” ³¹ So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

I. Paul, The Protective _____

Their personal connection and Paul’s _____

The dangers of a _____ suitor

Labor pains and repeating the _____

II. The Allegory, _____

Listening to _____

The two _____, the two _____

“Ishmael”	“Isaac”
Abraham’s son of the slave woman (Ishmael)	Abraham’s son of the free woman (Isaac) (4:22)
Born of the flesh	Born of the promise (4:23)
Mount Sinai = Hagar = slavery (4:24)	
Present Jerusalem = slavery (4:25)	Jerusalem above = free = our mother (4:26)
Children of the barren and desolate one (4:27)	Children of the one with the husband
	You = children of promise = Isaac (4:28)
Born of flesh ... persecutor	Born of Spirit (4:29) ... persecuted
Cast out son of slave	Son of free woman will inherit (4:30)
We are not children of slave woman	But children of free woman (4:31)

Schreiner, T. R. (2010). *Galatians* (p. 293). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

The barren woman _____

Isaiah 54

III. The Exhortation

What is Paul’s command regarding those who had been trying to “exclude” the Galatians?