

# It Sticks With You

## Can Adults Have Invisible Friends?

February 5, 2023

Galatians 3v19 - 4v11

19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made, and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. 20 Now a mediator involves more than one party, but God is one.

21 Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. 22 But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through the faith of Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

4 My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than those who are enslaved, though they are the owners of all the property, 2 but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. 3 So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental principles of the world. 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6 And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods. 9 Now, however, that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental principles? How can you want to be enslaved to them again? 10 You are observing special days and months and seasons and years. 11 I am afraid that my work for you may have been wasted.

Main Point:  
God has made himself known to us through his personal presence with us.

Question 1:  
Why then the law?

"Moses was not given the task of bringing Jews and Gentiles together into the promised single family. Rather, it was always God's will that he would hold Jews and Gentiles at arm's length from one another."  
\_ N.T. Wright

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God; it is you the Lord has chosen out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession.  
\_ Deuteronomy 14v2

The law was meant to last until the promise could be fulfilled.

Question 2:  
Is the law opposed to the promises of God?

It was not through the law, but through the faithfulness of the representative Israelite, Jesus the Messiah. In him, the promise has now come true, not for one ethnic group only, but for all who believe, Jew and Gentile alike.  
\_ N.T. Wright

New Identity in Christ

Lens of the Exodus Story

Ruakh: God's personal presence, God's spirit, God's self-revelation

Do we live in a way that acknowledges God's active and present Spirit?

**Resources:** *Galatians* by N.T. Wright, *Paul For Everyone* by N.T. Wright, *The Bible Project Podcast* - Episode 29 by Tim Mackie  
**Songs:** You've Got A Friend in Me (Preview), The Solid Rock, No Longer Slaves, Mystery, Altars, What a Friend We Have in Jesus  
**Looking to Connect?:** One of the Narrate staff would love to connect over lunch or coffee. To schedule a time please email [info@narratechurch.org](mailto:info@narratechurch.org) and we will get back to you within the week.