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GALATIANS

"TIME TO GROW UP"

GALATIANS 4:8-20

**WHEN I GROW UP,
I WANT TO BE...**



“Most people don’t grow up. Most people age. They find parking spaces, honor their credit cards, get married, have children, and call that maturity. What that is, is aging.”~ **Maya Angelou**

One of the tragedies of legalism is that it gives the appearance of spiritual maturity when, in reality, it leads the believer back into a “second childhood” of Christian experience.

I. Paul Laments their Regression

(vv. 8-11):

“Yes, but on a practical level, what are the equivalent of pagan-idol-worship in the 21st C?”

☐ We worship at the altar of materialism.

(see Ex. 20:17)

☐ We worship at the altar of our own pride and ego. (see Eccl. 2:21-23)

☐ We idolize humankind through naturalism and the power of science

(see 2 Pet. 3:10-13)

☐ We worship at the fulfillment of the self to the exclusion of all others and their needs and desires. (see Gen. 3:5)

All idolatry of self has at its core the three lusts found in 1 John 2:16: ***“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”***

Jesus replied, ***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”*** (Matt. 22:37)

Here’s the scary part: The legalistic approach to salvation is worse than the old slavery because they had no idea of how far away they were from the Father.

The ancient Hebrew prophetic faith: *The whole of life came from God and was subject to His law and governance. There could be no separate part of it in their thought labelled “religion.”*

Jesus did not say, “I come that they may have religion” but ***“I am come that they may have life and have it abundantly”*** (John 10:10). To make religion a thing of special times is to make it an external thing.

For real Christians every day is God’s day. **This is the difference between following a religion and having a relationship with God!**

**Do you think it is
time to grow up!**

