

Living Free

FORMIDABLE MOTHERS

We need to determine who we want our spiritual mother to be.

(Galatians 4:21-31) Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise. These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written: "Be glad, O barren woman, who bears no children; break forth and cry aloud, you who have no labor pains; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband." Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now. But what does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son." Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

1. The SLAVE Mother

(22-23) Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise.

- A. The slave mother is Hagar.
- B. Becoming a mother involved no faith in the Lord.

(24-25) These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children.

- C. Hagar is the mother of all who are slaves by virtue of "no faith" in the Lord.

2. The FREE Mother

(23a) His son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise.

(28) Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise.

(31) Therefore brothers, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

- A. The free mother is Sarah.

B. Becoming a mother required great faith in the Lord.

(24) These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants.

C. Sarah is the mother of all who are free by virtue of “great faith” in the Lord.

3. The HEAVENLY Mother

(26) But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother.

(29) At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now.

A. Those who do not trust in the Lord will always persecute those who do trust in the Lord.

B. God will always bless us for being children of faith.