

**What follows represents the unedited lecture notes of Pastor Merritt's teaching of the Book of Galatians. Please feel free to reproduce all or part for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Galatians Lesson

9-3-2017

1. Last week I taught Gal 4:28 and when time expired we were exegeting Gal 4:29.
2. Before returning to that study I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may be necessary.
3. Before continuing the analysis of verse 29 I want to provide an expanded translation of Gal 4:27-28.

**Gal 4:27 For it has been written in Isa 54:1, Be happy and rejoice, O barren woman who at first bore no children; break forth and cry out loud, princess, you who also bore no labor pains as did Hagar; Why rejoice? Because when Christ returns at the Second Advent you will have more children than Hagar.**

**Gal 4:28 Now for you my brothers and sisters in Christ; we, like Isaac are children of promise.**

4. So far, we have exegeted that portion of Gal 4:29 which in the KJV has been translated "*But as then he that was born after the flesh ...*" noting it might be better translated "**But at the time of Paul's writing the followers of Ishmael, representing those who had rejected God's grace ...**"

5. The entire verse has been translated in the KJV:

KJV-New Sentence

Gal 4:29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

6. Now let's resume our exegesis of Gal 4:29. I want to review some of that learned last week and then begin new material at point four on page two.

Introduction

1. So far Paul has established a contrast between Hagar and Ishmael on the one hand, and Sarah and Isaac on the other.
2. In the Old Testament account we had seen the conflict between Hagar and Sarah, and their immediate off-springs; but it was left to the apostle Paul to show how this feud represented an allegory. An allegory designed to point out the antagonisms between the bondage of the law and the freedom of grace.

3. Politically today we see the horrific conflict between the progenies of Hagar and Sarah: Muslim killing Jew, Jew killing Muslim and the United States trying to negotiate an elusive peace ... and then theologically we find divisive movements within the various Christian denominations.

4. Now let's resume the exegesis of verse 29 with an analysis of the phrase: "persecuted him that was born."

PERSECUTED HIM THAT WAS BORN ΔΙΩΚΩ Ο

1. **Dioko Ho** is better translated "were continuously persecuting Isaac who was born ..."

2. **Dioko** is a verb parsed as 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular, imperfect active indicative followed by the pronoun **Ho** declined as an accusative singular and used as a substantive.

3. **Dioko** appears some 44 times in Scripture where it is translated "follow, followed, when followed, when followed after, persecute, persecuting" or "persecuted." Examples:

1Th 5:15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever **follow** that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

Rom 9:30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which **followed not after** righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.  
Rom 9:31 But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness.

Rom 12:14 Bless them which **persecute** you: bless, and curse not.

Rom 12:15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

Rom 12:17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

4. Let's see how the verse looks so far by way of an expanded translation.

#### **Expanded Translation**

**Gal 4:29 But at the time of Paul's writing the followers of Ishmael, representing those who had rejected God's grace were continuously persecuting Isaac who was born ..."**

5. Now for the phrase "after the spirit."

AFTER THE SPIRIT, ΚΑΤΑ ΠΝΕΥΜΑ

1. **Kata Pneuma** is well translated “after the spirit ...”

2. **Kata** is a preposition followed by the indeclinable noun **Pneuma** used as an accusative singular.

3. **Pneuma** appears more than 300 times in the New Testament where it is translated “spirit, Spirit, wind” and “Ghost.” Examples:

Luk 11:24 When the unclean **spirit** is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

Luk 11:25 And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished.

Luk 11:26 Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other **spirits** more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.

Mat 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy **Ghost**.

Acts 16:16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a **spirit** of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

Acts 16:17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

Acts 16:18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the **spirit**, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Rom 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy **Ghost**.

Rom 15:18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,

Rom 15:19 Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the **Spirit** of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

2Ti 1:7 For God hath not given us the **spirit** of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Jam 4:5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The **spirit** that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

Jam 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

EVEN SO IT IS NOW ΟΥΤΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΝΥΝ.

1. **Houtos Kai Nun** is better translated “just as is being done today.”
2. **Houtos** is an adverb often translated “so, likewise, even so, on this wise” or “so as.”
3. **Houtos** appears more than 200 times in Scripture. Examples:

Rom 5:15 But not as the offence, **so also** is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

End Lesson Taught 9-3-2017

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