

THE FULNESS OF TIMES
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Jelsava, 25th December 2023

Galatians 4:1 Λέγω δέ, ἐφ' ὅσον χρόνον ὁ κληρονόμος νηπίος ἐστίν, οὐδὲν διαφέρει δούλου κύριος πάντων ὧν, ² ἀλλὰ ὑπὸ ἐπιτρόπους ἐστίν καὶ οἰκονόμους ἄχρι τῆς προθεσμίας τοῦ πατρός. ³ οὕτως καὶ ἡμεῖς, ὅτε ἦμεν νηπίοι, ὑπὸ τὰ στοιχεῖα τοῦ κόσμου ἦμεθα δεδουλωμένοι. ⁴ ὅτε δὲ ἦλθεν τὸ πλήρωμα τοῦ χρόνου, ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, γενόμενον ἐκ γυναικός, γενόμενον ὑπὸ νόμον, ⁵ ἵνα τοὺς ὑπὸ νόμον ἐξαγοράσῃ, ἵνα τὴν υἰοθεσίαν ἀπολάβωμεν.

Gal 4:1-5 I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Eph 1:7 Ἐν ᾧ ἔχομεν τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν διὰ τοῦ αἵματος αὐτοῦ, τὴν ἄφεσιν τῶν παραπτωμάτων, κατὰ τὸ πλοῦτος τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ ⁸ ἧς ἐπερίσσευσεν εἰς ἡμᾶς, ἐν πάσῃ σοφίᾳ καὶ φρονήσει, ⁹ γνωρίσας ἡμῖν τὸ μυστήριον τοῦ θελήματος αὐτοῦ, κατὰ τὴν εὐδοκίαν αὐτοῦ ἣν προέθετο ἐν αὐτῷ ¹⁰ εἰς οἰκονομίαν τοῦ πληρώματος τῶν καιρῶν, ἀνακεφαλαιώσασθαι τὰ πάντα ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ, τὰ ἐπὶ τοῖς οὐρανοῖς καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐν αὐτῷ.

Eph 1:7-10 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

OUTLINE

0. INTRODUCTION

- 0.1. WAITING FOR THE MESSIAH
- 0.2. THE GIFT OF TIME

1. FULLNESS OF OPPORTUNITIES

- 1.1. DISPENSATIONS
- 1.2. GOVERNMENT TYPES
- 1.3. BEFORE THE FIRST AND THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

2. FULLNESS OF PREPARATION

- 2.1. THE "AXIAL AGE" OF THE WORLD
- 2.2. THE CHANGES OF THE "AXIAL AGE"

3. JESUS, THE MESSIAH

- 3.1. KING – THE SERVANT
- 3.2. PROPHET – THE LOGOS
- 3.3. PRIEST – THE SACRIFICE

4. TO REMEMBER

0. INTRODUCTION

- Fullness of time: (1) Roman peace (*pax romana*) (2) Greek language (*Koine*) (3) Roman roads (???)

0.1. WAITING FOR THE MESSIAH

- → Kain?
- The prophecies

0.2. THE GIFT OF TIME

- **Gn 15:15-16** As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶ And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."
- **Rev 2:20-21** But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality.
- **Lk 13:6-9** And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸ And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹ Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"
- **Lk 21:24** Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled

1. FULLNESS OF OPPORTUNITIES

- Eph 1:10

1.1. DISPENSATIONS

- Rom 5 → before the Law ↔ after the Law (**Romans 5:13** for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law)
- COVENANTS

1.2. GOVERNMENT TYPES

- [PAWSON] Israel: (1) patriarchs, (2) prophets, (3) kings, (4) priests
- Nations: totalitarian rulers (the East); religious rulers (); military rulers; philosophical rulers; democratic rulers (Greece) ...

1.3. BEFORE THE FIRST AND THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- **Mt 21:37-38** Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.'
- The dispensation of grace...
- **Luke 19:13-14** Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Engage in business until I come.' ¹⁴ But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.'

2. FULLNESS OF PREPARATION

- Gal 4: Individual maturity → maturity of the world (prepared for the Messiah)
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2.1. THE "AXIAL AGE" OF THE WORLD

- The world: history or histories?
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2.2. THE CHANGES OF THE "AXIAL AGE"

THE SIGNS OF MATURITY (world "grown up"?)

- Abandoning traditions → innovation
- Discovering inner life → spirituality; ethics; mental/physical difference
- Developing individuality separate from the collective → individualism

3. JESUS, THE MESSIAH

3.1. KING – THE SERVANT

- **Isa 53:11** by his knowledge shall the righteous one, **my servant**, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities
- **Mk 10:45** For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

3.2. PROPHET – THE LOGOS

- **John 1:1-2** In the beginning **was the Word**, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

3.3. PRIEST – THE SACRIFICE

- **Heb 7:26** For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens
- **Heb 9:26** he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

4. TO REMEMBER