

THE PERFECT GIFT

Galatians 4:4-7

**The perfect gift that suits our individual need
is God's Son, Jesus Christ.**

I. THE PERFECT TIME (4a)

A. THE REFERENCE

1. "When the fullness of time came"
2. Literally: When time was pregnant and ready to deliver

B. THE REALITY (the perfect time ...)

1. Politically: The value of the Roman Empire
 - a. Roman law - Structured and codified providing safety and stability
 - b. Roman citizenship - A virtual one-world community
 - c. Roman peace - No wars to hinder the spread of the gospel (30-200 AD)
 - d. Roman army - Maintaining peace and even used to spread the gospel – cf. Phil 1:13
2. Culturally
 - a. One world language: The knowledge and use of Greek was nearly universal
 - b. An interest in education and a willingness to learn new things
3. Religiously
 - a. Roman religion: Assimilated the religions of the conquered lands and allowed others to continue the practice of their religions
 - b. Jewish religion: Monotheistic and moral with regular synagogue assemblies and the expectation of a king - See Luke 1:68-71

C. SUMMARY: There was never a more *perfect time* for Christ to enter the world!

II. THE PERFECT TYPE (4b)

A. HIS CREDENTIALS: "God sent forth His Son"

1. He was on a mission from God - See John 16:28a
2. He left the presence of God to become our Christmas present

B. HIS CARNATION: "Born of a women"

1. The acceptance of carnation - Phil. 2:5-8
2. The appropriateness of the carnation - Heb. 4:15

C. HIS CULTURE: "Born under the Law"

1. He lived under and obeyed the Law - Luke 2:52
2. He came not to destroy the Law but to fulfill it - Matt. 5:17

D. SUMMARY: There could never have been a more *perfect type* of gift!

III. **THE PERFECT TERMS** (5a)

A. THE CURSE OF THE LAW

1. The conclusion of the Law - Gal. 3:10
2. The condemnation of the Law - Heb. 10:1-4
3. The conquering of the Law - Gal. 3:13

B. THE CONCEPT OF REDEMPTION - Rom. 5:8-11

1. God's commitment (8)
2. Our condition (9-11)
 - a. Wrath is gone (9a)
 - b. Reconciliation is accomplished (10a)
 - c. Rescue is complete (10b)
 - d. Rejoicing initiated (11a)
 - e. Reception of atonement (11b)
3. The Conclusion
 - God gave what only He could, I gained what I otherwise couldn't

C. THE COMPLETENESS OF REMISSION - Col. 2:13-14

1. We were dead (13a)
2. We are delivered (13b-14)

D. SUMMARY: There are no more *perfect terms* than Christ's announcement, "Paid in full."

IV. **THE PERFECT TREATMENT** (5b-7)

A. THE CONTRAST (5b, 7a)

1. Adopted as sons
2. No longer a servant but a son

B. THE CONCLUSION (7b)

1. We are heirs of God
2. We inherit eternal life and Heaven - I Peter 1:4

C. THE COMFORT (6)

1. God's Spirit in us crying "Abba Father"
2. The ability to lovingly, intimately respond to God as our "Daddy, God"

D. SUMMARY: There could never be a more *perfect treatment!*

CONCLUSION:

Have you received the perfect gift?

Are you rejoicing in the perfect gift?