

Galatians 4:19~ **My little children, with whom I am again in childbirth pains until Christ is formed in you.**

- 1· Now he refers back to them as to babes, calling them my little children, for they are reverting back to the weak and elementary and beggarly things of the world, and not to the things, the more mature spiritual things of the Christ. Paul then refers to himself as their mother, who is trying spiritually to bring them to birth again, for the Christ is not fully formed in their minds, and he should be by now.

[Question] Why now does Paul refer back to them as babes?

[Question] How does he now refer to himself, in relation to them?

- 2· Consequently, my beloved ones, in the way that you have always obeyed, not during my presence only, but now much more readily during my absence, keep working out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (**Philippians 2:12**)

[Question] How did Paul want anointed Christians to obey, when he was not with them?

[Question] What must they be working at doing, whether he was there with them or not?

- 3· For though you may have ten thousand tutors in **Christ**, you certainly do not have many fathers. For in **Christ** Jesus, I have become your father, through the Good News. (**1 Corinthians 4:15**)

[Question] How was Paul like a father to the Corinthian congregation?

- 4· In harmony with that, you well know how, as a father does his **children**, we kept exhorting each one of you, and consoling and bearing witness to you. (**1 Thessalonians 2:11**)

[Question] How did Paul exhort the Thessalonians, like what to them?

- 5· I **am** exhorting you concerning my child, to whom I became a father while in my prison bonds, Onesimus. (**Philemon 1:10**)

[Question] How did Paul come to feel about Onesimus, who accepted Christ through his efforts?

- 6· For this reason, now that we have left the primary doctrine about the **Christ**, let us press on to maturity, not laying a foundation **again**, namely, repentance from dead works, and faith toward God. (**Hebrews 6:1**)

[Question] What should all anointed Christians press on to, once they are baptized?

- 7· Look! This is the third time I **am** ready to come to you, and yet I will not become a burden. For I **am** seeking, not your possessions, but you. For the **children** ought not to lay up for their parents, but the parents for their **children**. (**2 Corinthians 12:14**)

[Question] What was Paul seeking from the congregation he visited?

[Question] What fine spiritual things had he laid up for them?

- 8· I **am** writing you, fathers, because you have come to know him who is from the beginning. I **am** writing you, young men, because you have conquered the wicked one. I write you, young **children**, because you have come to know the Father. (**1 John 2:13**)

[Question] How did John address, those new in the truth?