

# Second Hand Preacher

*Mary, Mother of God*

January 1, 2017

**Galatians 4:4-7**

I recently watched a series called "The Crown." It was about the life of Queen Elizabeth and how she shaped history. The series had its share of drama, sensationalism, and betrayal. It was interesting to watch how royal blood and the office of monarch played out in Great Britain. It was defiantly one's birth rite that mattered as opposed to one's skill level. Connections to the Crown were often muddled, but in the end duty prevailed. Family and duty are often opposed. Hopefully, in our lives, family and duty can work together.

St. Paul tells of a King. This one was born of a woman under the law. His righteousness made things possible for all people to be adopted sons and daughters of God. We are considered heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven. There isn't one royal family; all are royal being made in the image of God. The Galatians did not always believe this. They were primarily Gentiles and felt that only Jews would make good Christians. This upset them deeply. Paul uses portions of this letter to reaffirm them. They, like all of us, are able to enter into a covenant with our Savior. Jesus is open to them, and the question remains, are the Galatians open to Jesus?

Are we open to Jesus? We are all children of God. This is sacramentally made true through our baptism. Based on the faith of our parents and Godparents we are welcomed into the family of God. He, as our Spiritual Father, makes all of us sons and daughters. When we don't feel like we are children of God, when we are separated from God by sin, just remember that God never moved. Like the prodigal son our God runs toward us wanting us to come home. No matter what we have done we are always invited back. Jesus is our brother and we just need to follow him.