

Galatians Introduction

Letter of Paul to the Church in the Roman province of Galatia, in Asia Minor. Written between 49-56. The Galatai were Indo-Aryans, related to Celts and Gauls, who invaded Asia Minor in 279 B.C., and lived in a mountainous area near modern Ankara. The 1C Province of Galatia encompassed Iconium, Lystra, Derbe, and Pisidian Antioch as well. Paul evangelized this area between A.D. 46-49, and again in 50 and 54 (Acts 13.14-14.23, 16.6, and 18.23).

“My own epistle, to which I have plighted my troth; my Katie von Bora” M Luther

Outline:

1.1-10 Introduction

Formalities and the exordium

1.11-2.14 Paul's CV and Bona Fides

2.15-21 Rebuke of Opponents

Justification by faith in Christ

Living by Faith

3.1-4.31 Proofs of Justification by Faith

Six Arguments, particularly centered on Abraham

1. The Galatians received the Holy Spirit without keeping Torah
2. Circumcision immaterial to God's promise of blessing all through Abraham (Genesis 12.3)
3. God's promise to Abraham preceded Torah by 430 years. God is not fickle.
4. Galatians have been freed by Christ. Why return to slavery (under the Law)?
5. Galatians treated Paul very well. How can he now be an enemy?
6. Draw proper lesson from Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar – freedom in Christ.

5.1-6.10 Ethical Exhortation

Preserve freedom in Christ

Walk according to the Spirit

6.11-18 Conclusion

Paul's personal pen

Benediction