



Introduction to the Galatians

Who were they? Where were they? When were they?

Who were the Galatians?

- 278 B.C.
- Gauls "invited"
- Trochmi
- Tectosages
- Tolisbogii



- Amyntas IV extends kingdom southward
- Rome converts into "Galatian province"

When, where and why was it written?

- Written after the Jerusalem council (Gal. 2:1 -- Acts 15:1-4)
- Written after 2 previous visits to South Galatia (Natural understanding of Gal. 4:13 -- Acts 13&14 {first visit} & Acts 15:40-16:5 {second visit})
- Composed shortly after conversion of the Galatians -- Paul was amazed how quickly they moved away from God -- Gal 1:6

- It may well have been written on the second missionary journey, at Corinth, before the arrival of Timothy and Silas -- no greeting from them in the letter
- Dated probably around 52 A.D.
- Paul wrote to the needs of the churches he was writing to, regardless if those needs were polar opposites - Galatians needed justification through faith (not law) - Thessalonians needed reassurance that their works were known abroad (turning from idols)

Why?

- Acts 14:19 - 15:41
- Amos 9:11-12 prophecy quoted as fulfilled by James in Acts 15:15-18
- James suggests the adoption of certain regulations which would make it possible for Jews and Gentiles to live in harmony (Acts 15:20-21)

The Theme & Outline of Galatians

- Justification by faith apart from law/works -- very similar to Romans -- both books quote Genesis 15:6 (Romans 4:3, Galatians 3:6)
- Chapters 1&2 - The Origin of the Gospel: it is divine not human therefore independent
- Chapters 3&4 - Vindication of the Gospel: both scripture and life(past history) bear testimony to its truth
- Chapters 5&6 - Its Application: it produces liberty.

Lets read!

Next week

➤ Chapter 1:1-10