

# GALATIANS

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## I. AUTHORSHIP

- I) The proof of Pauline authorship of Galatians is **indisputable**.
- II) One of 4 Pauline writings called the Hauptbriefe ("chief" or "**principle** letters")
- III) **References** to this letter appear in writings to Barnabas, Polycarp, Justin Martyr and Clement 1st.
- IV) In **Marcion's** canon Galatians appears first.

## II. OCCASION (SETTING)

- I) Paul & Barnabas went to Asia Minor in their **1st** missionary journey (48-49 AD) that included the **Galatian** cities of Iconium, Lystra & Derbe
- II) Later, **Judaizers** came in and started preaching **legalism**. Same situation arose in Syrian Antioch and was addressed by the **Jerusalem** council in 50 AD (Acts 15).
  1. Paul warned the Galatians about losing the grip on the gospel of **grace** that he had taught them. (1:6-7)
  2. Paul defended his **apostleship** since the Judaizers attacked him. (1:13-2:10)

## III. DESTINATION/ DATE

- I) **Northern** Galatian view- AD 54-56- during 3rd missionary journey.
  - 1) The view held through much of the **19th** century
- II) **Southern** Galatian view- AD 49- after 1st missionary journey
  - 1) This is the view held now that became that became popular by W.R. Ramsay, 1954

## REASONS FOR THIS:

- 1) Paul wrote to churches that Acts records on his **1st** missionary journey.
- 2) **Galatian** churches gave offering for Jerusalem.  
(Acts 20:4)
- 3) South Galatia was on a busy **trade** route, thus more vulnerable to the false teaching of the Judiazers.
- 4) Mention of **Barnabas** in Gal. 2:1, 9, 13--He was with Paul in South Galatia but not further north.

## REASONS FOR THIS: CONT.

- 5) Paul records that he was **sick**, so unlikely he traveled on **rugged** roads to N. Galatia.
- 6) Galatians written before the **Jerusalem** council, which explains why it it not mentioned.

## REASONS FOR THIS:

I) Order:

- 1) Paul's 1st missionary journey.
- 2) Writing of Galatians (64 AD)
- 3) Jerusalem Council
- 4) Paul's 2nd missionary journey.

## IV. THEME

GOSPEL vs LAW

FREEDOM vs  
LEGALISM