

# Introduction To Galatians

April 19, 2023

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## Galatians - The Start Of The Problem

Genesis 3:15 – Two Teams: God and Satan

- Team Satan, led by Satan is always trying to derail the plan and purpose of God and His people.
  - Actions are hostile to God’s faith line.
  - False teachings.
  - They may not know they are on this team.
- Team God (Jesus) is today those members of the Body of Christ that seek to do His will and make Him known.
  - Sometime these act like they are on the other team.

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## Galatia

- Around 278 BC, Europeans migrated to a specific area of Asia Minor in modern-day Turkey.
- The Romans conquered Galatia in 189 BC but allowed them to have limited autonomy.
- In 25 BC, it became a province of Rome and the mixture of ‘outside’ peoples increased.
- There was a wide mixture of ethnic heritage(s) and a wide mixture of religious beliefs.

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### Overview Of Galatians

- Paul visited the area c. 45AD; rife with pagan philosophy:
  - Greek & Roman Mythology
  - Other pagan religions
- Paul shared the Gospel = salvations & church plants.
- After Paul's visit, the Judaizers opposed this & were persecuting the believers & seeking to discredit Paul.
- They were promoting Law keeping to earn righteousness. False teaching affected many!

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### Overview Of Galatians

- Paul heard about this & wrote this Letter c. 48-53AD.
- It's a very to-the-point, very serious letter. Grace alone by faith alone in Christ alone!
- You cannot mix Law & Gospel.
- You cannot add anything to the work of Christ.
- Addition to truth is heresy: Deut. 18:15, 13:1-5, John 1:21.
- Paul addresses this issue in many of his Letters.
- This helps us understand later writings by Paul.

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### Galatians Overview

Paul had preached the gospel in Galatia previously (4:13), and the Galatians had received his gospel despite his physical weakness (4:13-14). Yet now some Jewish believers (6:12) entered the church and were preaching sanctification through the Law (3:1), particularly circumcision (5:11-12), and the Galatians were following them (1:6), even coming to the point of being upset at Paul (4:16) for preaching his gospel, which now they believed he did because he wanted to please men (1:10). Thus, Paul writes to defend himself (and his gospel) and attack the antagonist (false teachers) and their error.

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