

Galatia: *a province of Rome in Modern day Turkey*

Galatia was established as a province by Augustus Caesar in 25 BC.

Europeans had been there since 280 BC, when the Celtic people (*Germanics*) invaded Greece.

The region was populated by pagan people and Jews were there too.

Jews were there at least from 25 BC.



Christianity in Galatia

100-300

Christianity grew in spite of
persecution

300-600

Constantine converted to Christianity (sort of) and with his edict of Milan (313ad) and the council of Nicea (325ad).

Then with the establishment of Christianity by his heirs in 380ad, Christianity dominated the empire.

600-1453

Decline of the Christian faith in the region due to the emergence of Islam and its conflicts with both Christians and Jews.

Ultimately Islam drives Christianity into a minority by various means.

By 1,000ad, only 20% of Turkey is Christian and today, 0.2% of Turkey is Christian.

What was a Christian Church like in 50 ad?

1. As a general principle: orderliness (1 Cor 14:41)
2. Public reading of scripture (1 Tim 4:13)
3. Teaching (Acts 2.42)
4. Singing (Col 3.16; Eph 5.19; 1 Cor 14.26)
5. Prayer (Acts 2.42; 1 Tim 4.1-2)
6. Communion (Acts 2.42, 20.7)
7. Encouragement (Acts 2:46-47; Heb 10.24-25)
8. Giving (1 Cor 16.2)

What do we take away?

- 1. We need to be sure we do these things.*
- 2. We have to avoid excesses or additions because innovations can become **points of conflict**.*
- 3. Our twin objectives are Evangelization of the Lost and Education (discipleship of Believers)*