



# EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS



# THOUGHTS ON PAUL'S NAME...

- ▶ **Who changed Saul's name to Paul?**
  - ▶ Luke – Acts 13:9, “But Saul, who was also known as Paul...”
  - ▶ Saul is Hebrew meaning “desired or asked for”, is a name for greatness or great stature
  - ▶ Paul is Latin meaning “little”, is a name for small or weak
    - ▶ 1 Cor 15:9 – Least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle...
    - ▶ 2 Cor 10:1,10; 12:10 – I who am meek...
  - ▶ It was common for Jews of that day to have two names, one Jewish and one Gentile

# INTRODUCTION TO LETTER TO THE GALATIANS

- ▶ Paul's relationship with the Galatian churches
  - ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> Journey, Paul and Barnabas
  - ▶ Preaches 1<sup>st</sup> recorded sermon in Acts 13:16-41, in Antioch of Pisidia
  - ▶ Paul says, "we are turning to the Gentiles" (Ax 13:46)
  - ▶ They received opposition from the Jews and were ran out of town
  - ▶ A divided community...Ax 14:1-24
    - ▶ Multitude divided – 1-7
    - ▶ Mistaken for gods – vs 8-18
    - ▶ Paul stoned and was supposed dead – vs 19-20
    - ▶ Strengthened souls and appointed elders in every church – vs 21-24



**PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY**

Acts 13 & 14

- City
  - One of the "Seven Churches" - Rev. 2-3
  - ← Paul's Route →
- [ConformingToJesus.com](http://ConformingToJesus.com)

# INTRODUCTION TO LETTER TO THE GALATIANS

- ▶ Paul's relationship with the Galatian churches
  - ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> Journey, Paul, Silas and Timothy; 2-4 years after 1<sup>st</sup> visit with them
  - ▶ Picked up Timothy in Lystra/Derbe – Acts 16:1-2
    - ▶ Timothy joins Paul and Silas on their journey
    - ▶ Paul circumcised Timothy because of the Jews – vs 16:3
  - ▶ They delivered the decrees from the Jerusalem meeting on circumcision – vs 16:4-5
  - ▶ They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region – vs 16:6
  - ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup> Journey, Paul, Titus?, Timothy?,
    - ▶ They pass through the Galatian region and Phrygia – vs 18:23





# INTRODUCTION TO LETTER TO THE GALATIANS

- ▶ When: A.D. 57 – On Paul's third journey about the same time he wrote the letter to the Romans and roughly 11-12 years after these churches were established.
- ▶ Where: From Corinth
- ▶ Theme: Gal 3:26-29 – Justification by faith in Christ. After proving his apostleship was of Christ, Paul taught that salvation by faith in Christ is independent of the works of the Law of Moses.



# INTRODUCTION TO LETTER TO THE GALATIANS

## ► Outline:

- Paul is an Apostle through Jesus Christ and not after man (ch1-2)
- Justification is by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law of Moses (ch3-4)
- Exhortations to steadfastness and faithfulness to responsibilities of a Christian (ch5-6)
- Paul's object was to defend his apostolic commission and authority, and to bring his readers to a conviction regarding the freedom that Christians have from circumcision and the Mosaic law through the justification arising from God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.