

Auckland Chinese Baptist Church
(English Sunday School, 20-09-2015, 1145-1245)
New Testament Survey: Galatians (9/27)

Author

The Apostle Paul

Date

A.D. 54-55, as this work is close to the writing ofand both books share a close thematic connection.

Theme

Justification by

Historical Background

- 1 Paul founded the churches in Galatia during themissionary journey (Acts 13-14; Map 254).
- 2 After leaving the area, apparently someChristians arrived and they accused Paul of omitting crucial parts of the gospel, and they insisted that Galatians needed to submit to Jewish law and custom (such as circumcision) in order to be truly Christian.
- 3 Although Paul was willing to accommodate Jewish(Acts 16:3), he vehemently opposed this as a requirement.
- 4 This letter is ringing a declaration thatis God's free gift, and a hard-hitting rejection of any hint that it must somehow be earned.

Characteristics

- 1 Paul's passion for Christ and the gospel are evident in his anger and surprise at the Galatians' acceptance of the (1.6-9; 3.1; 5.12).
- 2 Galatians is like a rough version of Romans because arguments for justification by faith are carefully developed and logically in Romans, whereas Galatians is an response to a challenge that Paul felt very deeply.

Outline

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| 1:1-10 | Paul's passion |
| 1:11-24 | Paul's call |
| 2:1-10 | Paul's acceptance |
| 2:11-21 | Paul's Gospel |
| 3:1-14 | Faith and the Law |
| 3:15-25 | Law and Promise |
| 3:26-4:7 | Sonship and Unity |

4:8-20 Joy and Zeal
4:21-31 Hagar and Sarah
5:1-15 Freedom in Christ
5:16-26 Life in the Spirit
6:1-18 Bearing the Cross

Open Question 1

When you lose your cool, do you scream or yell? Throw things? Go for a walk? Take it out on the nearest person? Shut up and keep smiling?

Dig Question 1

Read 1:10-12; 2:2-4; 3:5, 10; 4:17; 5:2-4; 6:12-13, what are the false teachers saying about Paul?

Dig Question 2

Read 1:6-10; 2:11-14; 3:1; 4:12-20; 5:12 what is Paul feeling about the church? About the false teachers? About the gospel?

Response Question 1

When have you felt angry and upset because the truth about Jesus was being distorted by some person or group?