

INTRODUCTION TO GALATIANS

Written From Corinth

There is a lot of controversy concerning the date of Paul's letter to the Galatians. Most probably it is dated century A.D. 58. But it is clear the destination of the letter was to the Churches of Galatia, somewhere in a small area in north east Asia Minor.

The term "Galatia" was used with reference to the northern territory of the Celts. ¹

¹³ It is particularly significant that these people possessed quick apprehension, and an impressionable mind that craved knowledge; but were also inconstant, quarrelsome, treacherous, unstable, and easily disheartened by failure. Their religion (native) was basically superstitious, passionate, and ritualistic, with a slavish obedience (like a bond slave) to priestly authority. (Cf. the excellent summary of the racial characteristics of the Celts in Lightfoot, *op. cit.*, pp.14-17.) ¹

This letter contains the most emphatic statement of salvation apart from the works of the law to be found in Scripture. It revolutionized the thinking of Luther and played a strategic part in the Reformation. ²

1. Beacon Bible Commentary, Volume 9, p. 21.

2. The Open Bible, note p. 1098, Galatians.

