

The Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

Author and Date

Who is the author of the letter of St. Paul to the Galatians?

Destination

Where is the Roman province of Galatia located?

Purpose

Why did Paul write this letter?

Themes and Characteristics

What seems to be a towering issue for St. Paul in his letter to the Galatians and why?

Read 1:1-3 Why does St. Paul have to defend his apostleship? (Note 1:1)

Read 1:11-12 Where did St. Paul receive his gospel from? (Note 1:12)

Read 1:13-14 What famous rabbi did St. Paul study under? (Note 1:14)

Rad 1:15-24 Who is Cephas and James the Lord's brother? (Note 1:18) (Note 1:19)

Read 2:1-14 Why did Paul rebuke Peter? (Note 2:12) (Note 2:14)

Read 2:16 What does the term justified mean? (Note 2:16)

Read 2:17-21) What was the purpose of the Torah? (Note 2:18)

How does Paul reason regarding the necessity of the Mosaic Law for salvation?
(Note 2:21)

Read 3:1-6 What is meant by the verse "Thus Abraham believed God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness"? (Note 3:6)

Read 3:7-14 What does St. Paul mean when he says, “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us”? (Note 3:13)

The Works of the Law

How many times the St. Paul use expression “Works of the Law”?

What is the primary meaning of “Works of the Law” and how does St. Thomas Aquinas understand it?

What is the theological meaning of “Works of the Law”?

Read 3:15-18 How does St. Paul view the relationship between the Mosaic Covenant and the Abrahamic Covenant? (Note 3:15–18)

What is meant by Saint Paul when he speaks of Abrahams offspring? (Note 3:16)

How long was Israel in Egypt before the Exodus? (Note 3:17)

Read 3:19-20 What does St. Paul says, when he says, “Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one”? (Note 3:20)

Read 3:21-29 What is the right of Christian initiation? (Note 3:27)

Are there any national or racial differences with the institution of the New Covenant as it pertains to Salvation? (Note 3:28)

Read 4:1-7 How does St. Paul read the history of Israel? (Note 4:1 –7)

What is meant by the verse “the time had fully come” and “born of a woman” and “born under the law”? (Note 4:4)

What is the difference between the Son and the Spirit? What is the meaning of the word Abba? (Note 4:6)

Word Study

What is the meaning of the word adoption?

Read 4:21-31 Who were Abraham's two sons? (Note 4:22)

What is the difference between being born through the flesh or by the promise?
(Note 4:23)

What are the two covenants represented by Hagar and Sarah? (Note 4:24-31)

What is an allegory? How does St. Thomas understand allegories in sacred scripture? (Note 4:24)

Why does Paul link Hagar with Arabia? (Note 4:25)

How does Jewish tradition interpret “Playing of Abraham sons” in Gen 21:9?
(Note 4:29)

Both Isaac and Ishmael were circumcised. Why was Ishmael cast out then? (Note 4:30)

Read 5:1 How are the Mosaic Law and New Covenant Faith in Christ mutually exclusive? (Note 5:1)

Read 5:2-3 Is circumcision the gateway to the Old Covenant and what does it mean? (Note 5:3)

Read 5:4-6 Is faith alone sufficient to justify the sinner? (Note 5:6)

Read 5:13-14 How is the whole law fulfilled in one word? (Note 5:14)

Read 5:16-26 What does the indwelling of the Spirit produce? (Note 5:22)

Read 6:1-4 What is meant by the verse “but let each one test his own work”? (Note 6:4)

Read 6:7-9 What is the relationship between sowing and reaping? (Note 6:7-9)