

The book of Galatians is referred to as the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation. This was Martin Luther's favorite book of the Bible. Martin Luther, as a Roman Catholic monk never felt good enough for God- was always overwhelmed with his sinfulness- though doing all he could to try to please God. In effect trying to be saved by good deeds. The primary teaching of the book of Galatians, and the teaching woven throughout the Bible is that salvation is by grace through faith alone.

The author of the book is the Apostle Paul, as the Holy Spirit led him to pen this letter- originally to not just one church but a group of churches in the region called Galatia, North of the Mediterranean Sea. It was written between AD 48-49 from Antioch in Syria.



Paul is writing these churches because individuals called Judaizers had come into the church and corrupted the Gospel of Jesus by saying that adherence to the OT Laws was necessary to be a part of God's family. This included the rite of circumcision. (Galatians 1:6-7; 5:1-6). Paul is also writing to defend his authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ. This letter was to address a serious issue. One at the very heart of the message of Christ. That salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Important teachings:

1. Communicating the gospel biblically is critically important. (Galatians 1:6-9)
2. The works of the law are powerless to save. (Galatians 3:10-11)
3. Justification before God is by grace through faith alone. (Galatians 2:15-16)
4. The purpose of the Old Testament Law. (Galatians 3:19)
5. The relationship between the Law and Grace -Old and New Covenant. (Galatians 4:21-26)
6. The believer's freedom from sin and the OT Law. (Galatians 5:1,13)
7. Living by the power of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:16-18)
8. The Importance of doing good. (Galatians 6:9)