

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY
THE LETTERS OF PAUL
GALATIANS AND EPHESIANS

LESSON 20

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- II. OUTLINE OF GALATIANS
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GALATIANS

I. INTRODUCTION TO GALATIANS

Who wrote Galatians.

Paul wrote Galatians, Galatians 1:1.

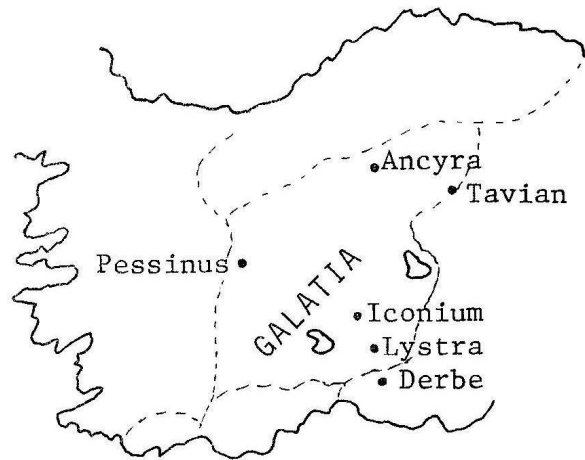
When Galatians was written.

Paul wrote Galatians sometime between A.D. 55 and 60. This was near the end of his third missionary journey. Paul possibly wrote the letter while he was at Ephesus, Corinth or in Macedonia.

To whom Galatians was written.

Galatia is a province in the Roman Empire. Find it on the map.

Paul started the churches at Derbe, Lystra and Iconium while on his first missionary journey. Find these cities on the map. There also were churches at Pessinus, Ancyra and Tavian. Paul could have started these on his second missionary journey.



The letter to the Galatians was written to the churches at Derbe, Lystra, Iconium and maybe to the churches at Pessinus, Ancyra and Tavian, Galatians 2:1; 3:1.

Why Galatians was written.

Many people at Jerusalem had become Christians. Some still thought that a person had to be a Jew to become a Christian. They did not think that Gentiles could become Christians by believing in Jesus Christ alone.

One time when Paul and Barnabas went to Jerusalem, the Church council had an important meeting. At this meeting they talked about Gentiles becoming Jews before they could become Christians. At this meeting it was decided that Gentiles needed to only believe in Jesus Christ to become Christians.

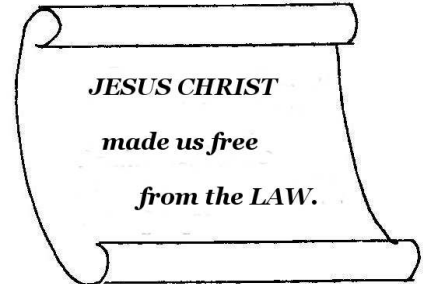
Some of the Jews did not want to believe what the council decided. They went out to churches in other places. They tried to teach the Gentile Christians that they had to become Jews first. (They had to be circumcised. They had to keep the Jewish law.) These people were called Judaizers. When Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70, the Judaizers lost their strength.

The Judaizers came to Galatia. They told the people that Paul did not preach the truth. Many Christians in Galatia believed what the Judaizers taught. The people of Galatia were very quick to change their minds. They believed new ideas without thinking about them.

When Paul heard that some of the Galatians believed that they had to keep the Jewish law to become Christians, he did not like it. He wrote a letter to the Galatians. First he told them that he spoke the truth. He said God gave him the message of salvation. Then he showed the Galatians that they needed to believe only in Jesus Christ to be saved. (Jesus Christ would set them free from the Jewish law. Jesus Christ was better than the Jewish law.)

Main thought of Galatians.

The main thought is "Law and grace." Jesus Christ has made us free from the Jewish law, Galatians 5:1. This is also the key verse.



"Christ made us free. Stay that way. Do not get chained all over again in the Jewish Law and its kind of religious worship." Galatians 5:1.(N.L.T.)

II. OUTLINE OF GALATIANS

- A. Introduction, Galatians 1:1-9.
- B. The message of Paul was from God, Galatians 1:10 - 2:21.
- C. The Jewish law cannot make a person right with God, Galatians 3:1 - 4:11.
- D. The Jewish Law makes a person a prisoner, Galatians 4:12-31.
- E. Christ makes a person free, Galatians 5:1-15.
- F. The Holy Spirit helps a person get rid of sinful habits, Galatians 5:16-26.
- G. The Christian should help other Christians, Galatians 6:1-10.
- H. The Christian should be proud of the cross of Christ. He should not be proud of religious works, Galatians 6:11-18.

III. LESSONS IN GALATIANS

A. The message of Paul was from God.

READ GALATIANS CHAPTERS 1 and 2.

Paul knew he could not help the Galatians until they believed him. God had made Paul an apostle. He shows that his message was from God, Galatians 1:1,11,12. God had given him the gospel.

Paul was a Jew. He had followed the Jewish ways, Galatians 1:13; 2:15. He

knew the Jewish laws could not make him right with God.

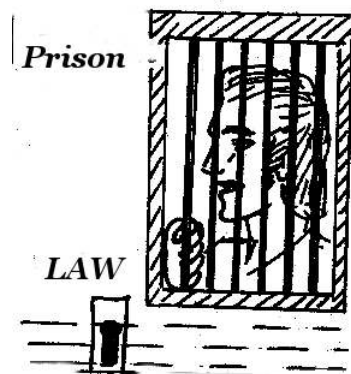
Paul told the Galatians that the apostles at Jerusalem knew he was preaching the Word of God. These apostles had encouraged Paul and Barnabas to preach to the Gentiles, Galatians 2:9,10.

Some men had come to teach the Galatians that they had to keep the Jewish Law. Paul knew about their teaching. He told the Galatians these men did not teach right, Galatians 4:17. He said these men did not keep the laws themselves.

B. The Jewish Law makes a person a prisoner.

READ GALATIANS CHAPTERS 3 and 4.

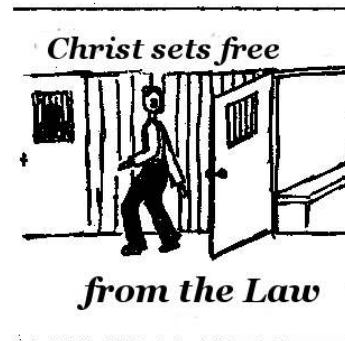
1. The Jews were not able to keep the Law, Galatians 6:13. (Compare Romans 2:17-24.) No one can keep the Jewish Law.
2. The Jewish Law cannot save a person, Galatians 3:10-12. It cannot make a person right with God.
3. Those who try to keep the Jewish Law are not free. They are like prisoners. They are kept in the prison of the Jewish Law, Galatians 3:23; 4:12-31.
4. Paul tells how Abraham was made right with God by faith. Abraham lived a long time before the Jewish Law was given. Yet, he was made right with God because he believed God, Galatians 3:6-18.
5. Paul asked the Galatians if they had received the Holy Spirit by keeping the Jewish Law. The Galatians had had the Jewish Law before, but did not have the Holy Spirit. The Galatians received the Holy Spirit when they believed in Jesus.
6. Keeping the Jewish Law does not make a person a Christian. Those who try to please God by keeping the Jewish Law, cannot please God. They cannot please God because they cannot do what the Jewish Law says. Therefore, those who try to keep the Jewish Law will be punished, Galatians 3:10.
7. The Jewish Law was given to lead people to Jesus Christ. The Jewish Law was a teacher. It taught that everyone was a sinner. It taught that everyone needed a Savior, Galatians 3:24-25.



C. Christ makes a person free from the Jewish Law.

READ GALATIANS CHAPTERS 5 and 6.

What is grace? Someone said, "Grace is God's riches at Christ's expense." We can receive all the riches of God because Jesus Christ died for us. Grace is the loving favor of God.



Every person has broken the Law of God. Every person deserves to die because of this. Yet, God made a way that every person can be made right with God. A person has to put his trust in Jesus Christ to be made right with God, Galatians 2:16.

When a person puts his trust in Jesus Christ, he receives the Holy Spirit, Galatians 3:5.

When a person puts his trust in Jesus Christ, he is free from the punishment of breaking the Law, Galatians 3:13.

When a person puts his trust in Jesus Christ he becomes a child of God, Galatians 3:26. He belongs to Jesus Christ.

A child of God receives all of God's promises, Galatians 4:7.

A child of God is free from the Jewish Law, Galatians 5:1.

A child of God receives the fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22,23.

A child of God receives life that lasts forever, Galatians 6:8.

A child of God receives God's loving kindness and loving favor.

When we are free can we do anything we want? No! We are free from the power of sin. We are free to obey God in love. We are free to love others. We are free to help others, Galatians 5:13,14.

EPHESIANS

IV. INTRODUCTION TO EPHESIANS

Who wrote Ephesians.

Paul wrote Ephesians, Ephesians 1:1.

When Ephesians was written.

Ephesians was written between A.D. 60 and 64. It was written while Paul was in prison in Rome. It is called a prison letter.

To whom Ephesians was written.

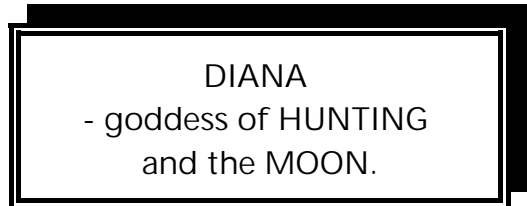
Ephesus was a large city in Asia. Find it on the map. The road from Rome went east through Ephesus. The temple of the goddess Diana was at Ephesus.

Apollos started the church at Ephesus, Acts 18:19-28. Paul came to Ephesus a little later. He stayed about 2 ½ years in Ephesus to teach the Christians. Paul also told the people in the cities around Ephesus the gospel of salvation.

The church at Ephesus became the center of the churches in Asia.

It is believed that the letter to the Ephesians was written to all the churches in Asia. The letter was written to strong Christians.

The letter does not talk about the problems in the churches like the other letters do.



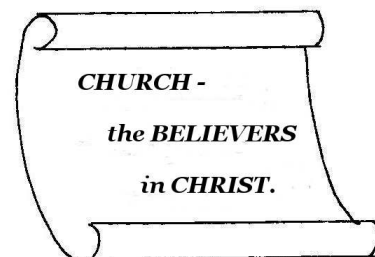
Why Ephesians was written.

Ephesians was written to help the Christians see all they have in Christ. It shows how the people in the Church are to work together.

The word "Church" in Ephesians means those who belong to the body of Christ, Ephesians 1:23. It does not mean only a church in one place.

Main thought of Ephesians.

The main thought in Ephesians is the Church. The key word is heaven (heavenly places).



V. OUTLINE OF EPHESIANS

- A. Introduction, Ephesians 1:1,2.
- B. How the Church is made up, Ephesians 1:3-14.
 - 1. God planned the Church, Ephesians 1:3-6.
 - 2. God chose the Christians by Christ, Ephesians 1:6-12.

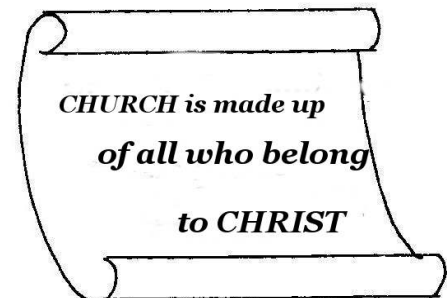
3. God marked the Christians by giving them the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 1:13,14.
- C. What the Church is to know (a prayer), Ephesians 1:15-23.
 1. The hope given by the call of God.
 2. The things God promised to those who belong to Him.
 3. The great power of God.
 4. That Jesus Christ is the leader of the Church.
- D. How the Church is made, Ephesians 2:1-10.
 1. Made of sinners.
 2. Made of grace.
 3. Made to do good works.
- E. How the Church has unity, Ephesians 2:11-22.
- F. The work of the Church, Ephesians 3:1-13.
- G. The prayer of Paul for the Church, Ephesians 3:14-21.
- H. How the Church is to behave, Ephesians 4:1 - 6:9.
 1. To live and work together to please God, Ephesians 4:1-16.
 2. The old and new life, Ephesians 4:17 - 5:14.
 3. How to live in the world, Ephesians 5:15-21.
 4. How to live in the family, Ephesians 5:21 - 6:4.
 5. The Christian and work, Ephesians 6:5-9.
- I. How the Church fights the evil powers, Ephesians 6:10-20.
- J. Closing words, Ephesians 6:21-24.

VI. LESSONS IN EPHESIANS

A. How the Church is made up.

READ EPHESIANS 1:1-14.

God knew all things. He knew what He wanted to do. God planned to bring people to Himself. He did this because He loved them, Ephesians 1:4,5. God planned to have the Church. In this Church are all those who belong to God.



God planned to send Jesus Christ into the world, Ephesians 1:9. God chose us to be His children by Christ, Ephesians 1:5,11. Jesus Christ died for our sins. He bought us and set us free from the penalty of sin, Ephesians 1:7. When we put our trust in Jesus Christ, we become children of God. Every child of God is a part of the Church.

When we put our trust in Jesus Christ, we receive the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 1:13. The Holy Spirit gives us everything we need to live the Christian life. The Holy Spirit is to make us complete. This means the Holy Spirit makes our lives to be like the life of Jesus Christ. He makes us pure and clean.

B. What the Church is to know.

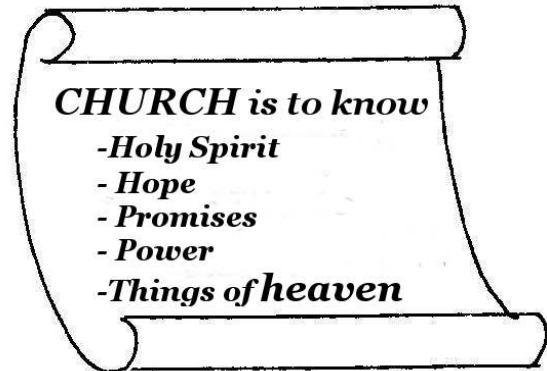
READ EPHESIANS 1:15-23.

Paul prayed for the Church, Ephesians 1:15-23. It would be good if we could pray this prayer for each other.

First, Paul prays that God would give them the wisdom of His Spirit. This wisdom would help them to know the secret of the Holy Spirit. This wisdom would help them to know the Holy Spirit better.

Paul prayed that they would know about the hope given by the call of God. He prayed that they would know the great things God promised to those who belong to Him. Paul also prayed that they would know the great power of God. This power raised Jesus from the dead. This power put Jesus Christ at the right side of God, in heaven, Ephesians 1:20. God made Jesus Christ the chief leader of the Church. The Church is the body of Jesus Christ.

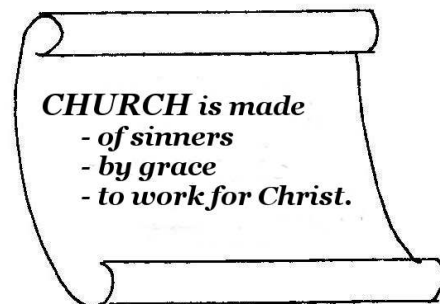
The Christians have the hope and great promise to be able to sit together with Christ in heaven. The Christians can know some of the “heavenly” things now. The closer they live to Jesus Christ, the more they know about the things in heaven. After the resurrection they will sit with Christ in heaven, John 14:2,3. Paul often tells the Christians of this, Ephesians 2:6; 1:3; 1:20.



C. How the Church is made.

READ EPHESIANS 2:1-10.

It is hard to understand how God works. Most of us would choose nice people to make a Church. But in Ephesians 2:1-3 we see God chose sinners to make His Church. Where would you and I be if God chose only nice people?



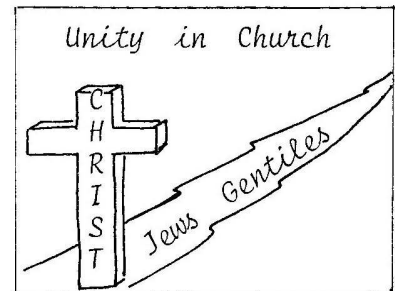
God made His Church by grace. Ephesians 2:4 says God loved us. He loved us enough to send Jesus. Jesus loved us enough to die for us. No one deserved to have Jesus die for him. No one deserved to have so much given to him. God did this by His grace (loving favor) through Christ. Why did God do this? He has made us to sit together with Christ in the heavens, Ephesians 2:6. He wanted to show us through all eternity the riches of His grace, Ephesians 2:7.

God wants us to work for Him, Ephesians 2:10. God planned that we should work for Him.

D. How the Church has unity.

READ EPHESIANS 2:11-21.

At one time the Jews had nothing to do with the Gentiles. Christian Jews and Christian Gentiles were brought together in Christ.



One of the greatest things about the Church is that all people are brought together in Christ. No one can think that he is better than the other. Jesus Christ keeps the Church together.

E. The work of the Church.

READ EPHESIANS 3:1-21.

The Church is to show how great God's wisdom is, Ephesians 3:10. In His wisdom God planned the Church. God planned the Church for the Jews and for the Gentiles. For a long time this was a secret. But now God showed Paul that the Gentiles could be part of the Church.

F. The prayer of Paul for the Church.

READ EPHESIANS 3:14-21.

Paul prayed for the Church to be a strong Church. He prayed the following things for the Church:



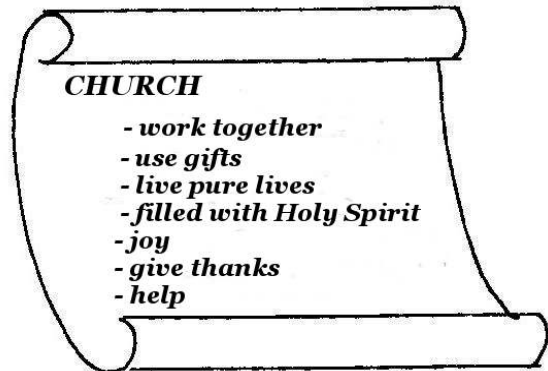
1. God would make the Christians strong in their hearts through the Holy Spirit.
2. Christ would live in the hearts of the Christians by faith.

3. The Christians would be filled with love.
4. The Christians would understand how great the love of God is.
5. The Christians would know the love of Christ.
6. The Christians would be filled with God Himself.

G. How the Church is to behave.

READ EPHESIANS 4:1 - 6:9.

1. Christians are to live and work together in love and unity. They can do this with the help of the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 4:2-3.



2. God has given gifts to the Christians. These gifts are to be used to make the Church strong. These gifts are to be used the best way they can be used, Ephesians 4:11,12.

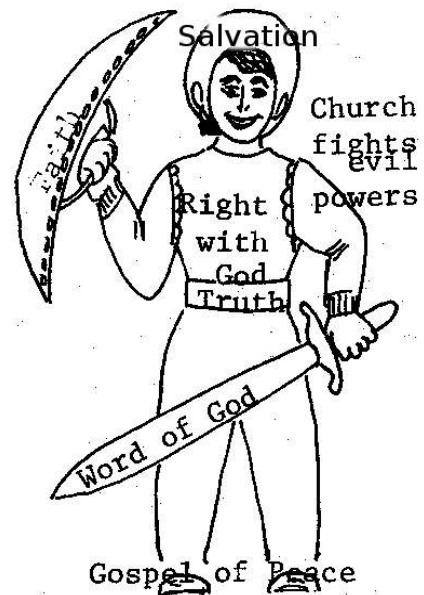
3. The Christians are not to live like the people of the world. They are to live clean and pure lives.

4. The Christians should be filled with the Holy Spirit.

5. The Christians should share their joys.

6. The Christians should sing and give thanks.

7. The Christians should help each other.



H. How the Church fights evil powers.

READ EPHESIANS 6:10-24.

Paul asks the Christians to be strong in God's

strength. The Christians fight is not against people. Their fight is against the devil, the demons and evil powers.

God gives the Christians what they need for the fight. Some of these fighting tools are: truth, being right with God, peace, faith, salvation and the Word of God.

VII. WORDS TO LEARN

1. Church - is all the believers in Jesus Christ everywhere in the world. (As used in this course.)
2. church - is a group of believers in Jesus Christ in a settlement or town. (As used in this course.)
3. grace - God's loving favor.
4. unity - working together in a group with oneness.
5. wisdom - doing and saying things in the right way.

VIII. ASSIGNMENT

1. Read Galatians again.
2. What were the Christians in Galatia doing that made Paul write to them?
Galatians 1:6; 3:1
3. What did Peter do that made Paul speak against him? Galatians 2:11-14

Peter showed fear of the Jews and made the Christian Jews leave the Gentiles.

4. What was the work of the Jewish law? Galatians 3:24
5. Does God make a difference between the Jews and the Greeks (Gentiles)? Galatians 3:28
6. What are the works of the flesh? Galatians 5:19-21
7. What is the fruit of the Spirit? Galatians 5:22,23
8. Read the letter to the Ephesians.
9. What does God want us to do? Ephesians 4:1b

10. Who is the leader of the power of darkness (prince of the power of the air)? Ephesians 2:2
11. Where do we get our strength from to live the way God wants us to live? Ephesians 3:16
12. What are the gifts given to the Church? Ephesians 4:11
13. What are these gifts to do for the Church? Ephesians 4:12
14. What are Christians not to do? Ephesians 4:17; 5:3-4
15. What is the Church to do? Ephesians 5:19-21
16. How should wives live? Ephesians 5:22
17. How should husbands live? Ephesians 5:25
18. How should children live? Ephesians 6:1
19. What should fathers do to their children? Ephesians 6:4-8
20. What should workmen do? Ephesians 6:5
21. What should the employer (boss) do? Ephesians 6:9
22. Who does the Church fight against? Ephesians 6:12
23. What does God give to help in the fight? Ephesians 6:11-18
24. How often should we pray? Ephesians 6:18
25. What are we to ask for when we pray? Ephesians 6:18

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