

## ~GALATIA (189) (Ga-la'ti-a)

- The Roman province that occupied the central portion of what is now known as Asia Minor. It was bounded by other Roman provinces in part by Cappadocia on the East, Bithynia and Pontus on the North, Asia on the West, and Pamphylia on the South.
- Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the temporary residents scattered about in Pontus, **Galatia**, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, to the ones chosen (**1 Peter 1:1**)
- This central plateau region lay between the Taurus Mountains on the South and the mountains of Paphlagonia on the North. In its north-central portion was the city of Ancyra, now called Ankara, the capital of Turkey.
- And through this area flowed the middle segment of the Halys River, the modern Kizil Irmak, and the upper Sangarius River or Sakarya, both of which empty into the Black Sea.
- The history of this region, 400 and more years, from the **Third Century B.C.E.** forward, shows there were many changes in the boundaries and political affiliations of this strategic area.
- It appears that around **278-277 B.C.E.** large numbers of Indo-European people known as Celts, or **Galli**, from Gaul, whom the Greeks called *Ga-la'tai*, hence the name given this region, moved across the Bosphorus and settled there.
- They brought with them their wives and children and apparently avoided intermarrying with the people already there, in this way perpetuating their racial characteristics for centuries.
- Their last king, Amyntas, died in **25 B.C.E.**, and it was during his reign as a puppet of the Roman Empire and thereafter that the area designated as **Galatia** was enlarged to include portions of Lycaonia, Pisidia, Paphlagonia, Pontus, and Phrygia.
- This then was the expanded **Galatia** that the apostle Paul and other evangelizing Christians of the **First Century C.E.** visited and in

**which they found persons eager to be organized into Christian congregations.**

- **And when he had passed some time there he departed and went from place to place through the country of **Galatia** and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples. (**Acts of Apostles 18:23**)**
- **Now concerning the collection that is for the holy ones, just as I gave orders to the congregations of **Galatia**, do that way also yourselves. (**1 Corinthians 16:1**)**
- **Both Paul and Peter addressed letters to Christian congregations located in the province of **Galatia**.**
- **Paul, an apostle, neither from men nor through a man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him up from the dead. (**Galatians 1:1**)**
- **And all the brothers with me, to the congregations of **Galatia**. (**Galatians 1:2**)**
- **Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the temporary residents scattered about in Pontus, **Galatia**, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, to the ones chosen (**1 Peter 1:1**)**
- **Whether these were the same congregations established by Paul and Barnabas is not stated. On that swing through **Galatia**, Paul and Barnabas visited such **Galatian** cities as Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe**
- **They, however, went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia and, going into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, they took a seat. (**Acts of Apostles 13:14**)**
- **These shook the dust off their feet against them and went to Iconium. (**Acts of Apostles 13:51**)**
- **Now in Iconium they entered together into the synagogue of the Jews and spoke in such a manner that a great multitude of both Jews and Greeks became believers. (**Acts of Apostles 14:1**)**
- **Now when a violent attempt took place on the part of both people of the nations and Jews with their rulers, to treat them insolently and pelt them with stones. (**Acts of Apostles 14:5**)**

- They, on being informed of it, fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe and the country round about. ([Acts of Apostles 14:6](#))
- And when they returned to the brothers in Antioch of Syria they related how in these and other places God had opened to the nations the door to faith.
- When they had arrived and had gathered the congregation together, they proceeded to relate the many things God had done by means of them, and that he had opened to the nations the door to faith. ([Acts of Apostles 14:27](#))
- One experience they had in Lystra was most unusual. Paul had cured a crippled man who had never walked in his life, and suddenly the crowds began crying out in their native Lycaonian tongue;
- The gods have become like human's and have come down to us! Barnabas they called Zeus and Paul they thought to be Hermes. It was almost more than Paul and Barnabas could do to prevent the excited crowds from offering sacrifices to them as if they were gods.
- Now in Lystra there was sitting a certain man disabled in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, and he had never walked at all. ([Acts of Apostles 14:8](#))
- This man was listening to Paul speak, who, on looking at him intently and seeing he had faith to be made well. ([Acts of Apostles 14:9](#))
- Said with a loud voice; Stand up erect on your feet. And he leaped up and began walking. ([Acts of Apostles 14:10](#))
- And the crowds, seeing what Paul had done, raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian tongue; The gods have become like human's and have come down to us! ([Acts of Apostles 14:11](#))
- And they went calling Barnabas Zeus, but Paul Hermes, since he was the one taking the lead in speaking. ([Acts of Apostles 14:12](#))
- And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was before the city, brought bulls and garlands to the gates and was desiring to offer sacrifices with the crowds. ([Acts of Apostles 14:13](#))

- However, when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they ripped their outer garments and leaped out into the crowd, crying out (**Acts of Apostles 14:14**)
- And saying; Men, why are you doing these things? We also are human's having the same infirmities as you do, and are declaring the Good News to you, for you to turn from these vain things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all the things in them. (**Acts of Apostles 14:15**)
- In the past generations he permitted all the nations to go on in their ways. (**Acts of Apostles 14:16**)
- Although, indeed, he did not leave himself without witness in that he did good, giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts to the full with food and good cheer. (**Acts of Apostles 14:17**)
- And yet by saying these things they scarcely restrained the crowds from sacrificing to them. (**Acts of Apostles 14:18**)
- The seeds of Christianity sown among the **Galatians** bore good fruitage. It was from among them that disciples like Timothy and Gaius came.
- So he arrived at Derbe and also at Lystra. And, look! A certain disciple was there by the name of Timothy, the son of a believing Jewish woman but of a Greek father. (**Acts of Apostles 16:1**)
- There were accompanying him Sopater the son of Pyrrhus of Beroea, Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, and from the district of Asia Tychicus and Trophimus. (**Acts of Apostles 20:4**)
- Paul gave instructions to the **Galatian** congregations as to the manner of laying aside contributions for the Lord's poor and needy ones.
- Now concerning the collection that is for the holy ones, just as I gave orders to the congregations of **Galatia**, do that way also yourselves. (**1 Corinthians 16:1**)
- Every first day of the week let each of you at his own house set something aside in store as he may be prospering, so that when I

arrive collections will not take place then. (**1 Corinthians 16:2**)

- Only we should keep the poor in mind. This very thing I have also earnestly endeavored to do. (**Galatians 2:10**)