



1. Who is the writer and/or speaker ?
2. When was it written and/or said ?
3. To whom was it written and/or spoken ?
4. What are the major natural divisions ?
5. What is the repeated key word ?
6. What simple sentence sums it all up ?
7. What is an application to my life today ?

### Survey of the Book of Galatians

1. The writer : Paul signs his letter in ch1v1 and 5v2. He had been a missionary (apostle) in the Province of Galatia since 53 AD (cf. Ac16v6). The Jerusalem Council had taken place previously in 51 AD (cf. Ac15v6) and is the context of the subject of this letter. Paul had spread the Gospel as far as Bithynia (cf. Ac16v7-8), now Ankara in Turkey. He was ill while there (cf. Ga4v14-15). He had revisited them in 54 AD (cf. Ac18v23). Therefore, he knew the Galatians very well (cf. Ga3v1)
2. The date : Paul is old (cf. Ga5v2), partially blind (cf. Ga6v11) and suffering in prison (cf. Ga6v17). He had finished his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary trip, at which time he had last visited Galatia (cf. Ga4v13). So the year must be about 57 AD.
3. The readers : This is a circular letter to be read by all the churches in the Province of Galatia (cf. Ga1v2). It is highly probable that this is letter mentioned in Col4v16 to read in that city. The readers addressed would be Christians.
4. The divisions : 7 Reasons to live a pure life by God's grace rather than by rules
  - 1v1-5 Christians are saved from sin by grace.
  - 1v6-9 The Gospel of grace has not changed.
  - 1v10-2v14 No one has the right to change the Gospel.
  - 2v15-3v24 Salvation by God has always been unmerited.
  - 3v25-5v15 If you are saved, it was by grace.
  - 5v16-26 Victory over sin is by grace from God's Holy Spirit.
  - 6v1-18 Christians obey all the law of God when they love others like Christ.
5. The key words : Law (32x), Faith (20x) and Spirit (18x).
6. The message : "The Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith." Galatians 3v24
7. The application : "You were called to freedom, brethren ; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." Galatians 5v13