

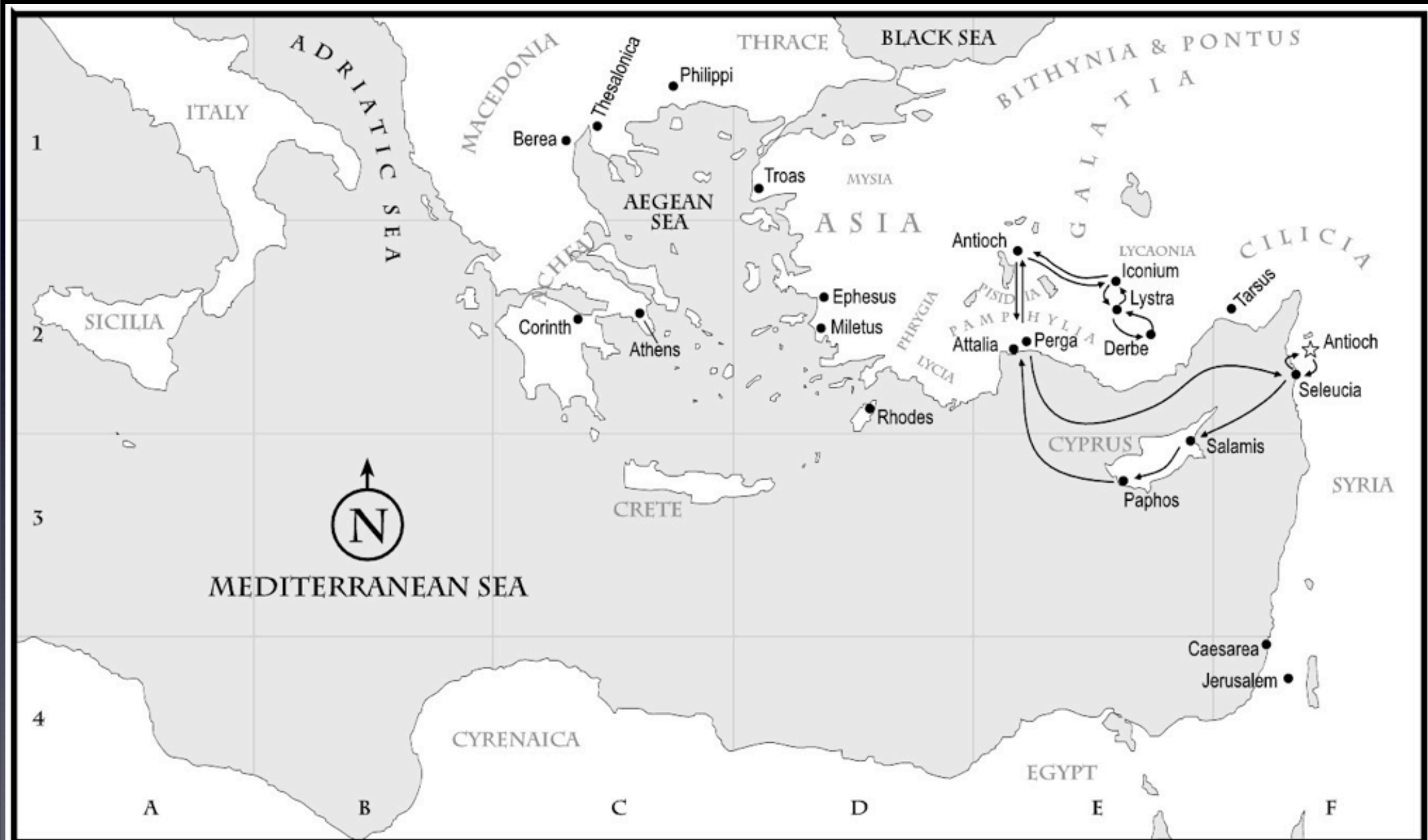
# Theology 102: New Testament Journey

Paul's First Missionary Journey

Galatians

The Council of Jerusalem

# Paul's First Missionary Journey





# Galatians

# Galatians

\* **Author:** Paul the Apostle

# Galatians

- \* **Author:** Paul the Apostle
- \* **Date:** 47 AD

# Galatians

- \* **Author:** Paul the Apostle
- \* **Date:** 47 AD
- \* **Audience:** Political province of Galatia, region Paul just visited in his first missionary journey.

# Galatians

- \* **Author:** Paul the Apostle
- \* **Date:** 47 AD
- \* **Audience:** Political province of Galatia, region Paul just visited in his first missionary journey.
- \* **Purpose:** Refute false gospel and remind of the real basis of their salvation.

# Galatians Purpose

2:15-16: “We who are Jews by birth and not ‘Gentile sinners’ know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.”

# Observation, Interpretation, Application

Galatians 5:1-6

# The Council of Jerusalem

- Acts 15
- What is at stake?
  - Acts 15:1-2

# The Council of Jerusalem

- The Judaizers claimed that to become a Christian you must become a Jew first.
- Gen. 17:12 For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring.

# The Council of Jerusalem

- Gen. 17:12-13 “An alien living among you who wants to celebrate the Lord’s Passover must have all the males in his household circumcised; then he may take part like one born in the land. No uncircumcised male may eat of it. The same law applies to the native-born and to the alien living among you”

# The Council of Jerusalem

- The problem is that the Law cannot save. All fall short of the law.
- Peter says it at the Council in v. 10 “Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of the disciples a yoke that neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear?”

# The Council of Jerusalem

- **The Old Testament supports this too**

Jeremiah 9:23-26, NIV: 23 This is what the Lord says: “Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the Lord. 25 “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will punish all who are circumcised only in the flesh—26 Egypt, Judah, Edom, Ammon, Moab and all who live in the desert in distant places. For all these nations are really uncircumcised, and even the whole house of Israel is uncircumcised in heart.” (see notes for more)

# The Council of Jerusalem

- There is a “circumcision of the heart” that is needed
- Peter hits it in v. 11 answering his question of whether we should put the law on the disciples: “No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”

# The Council of Jerusalem

- The very heart of the gospel was at stake. Why is that? What is wrong with adding a little something extra to it for good measure? How could it be bad to add something good from the Law to belief in Christ?

# Application

Looking at the whole context, what can we learn?

# Next Week

Paul's Second Journey

First and Second Thessalonians