# NEW TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

## GALATIONS – PART ONE

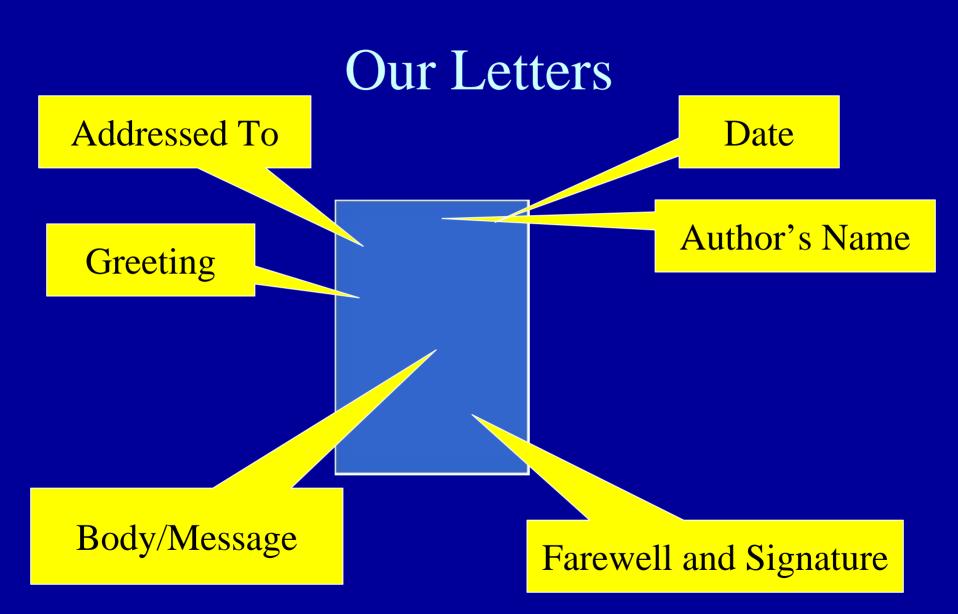
Lesson 28

Biblical-Literacy.com

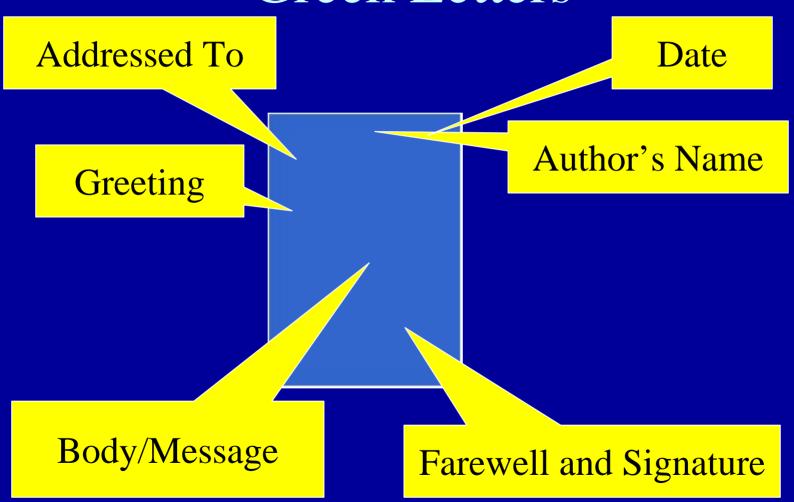
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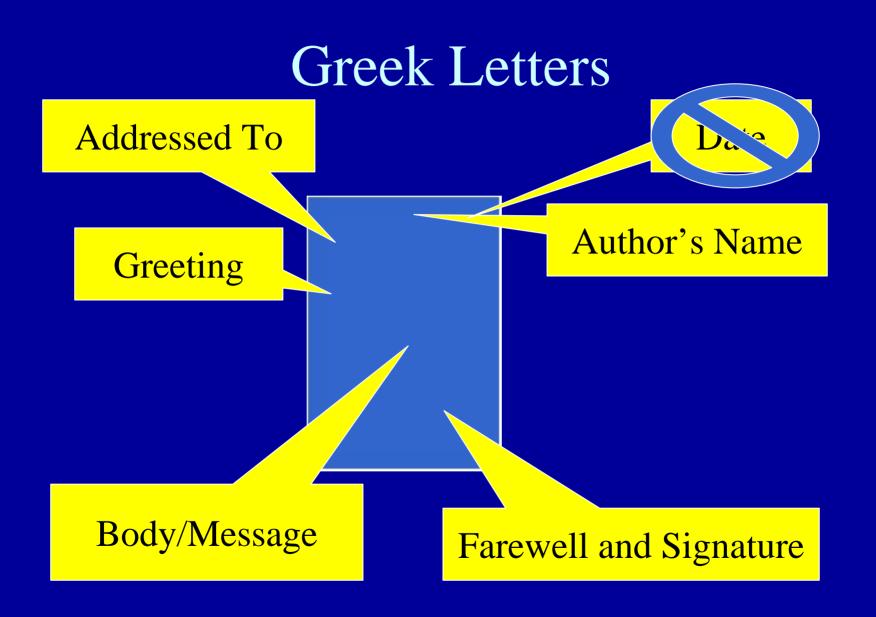
# What is an Epistle?

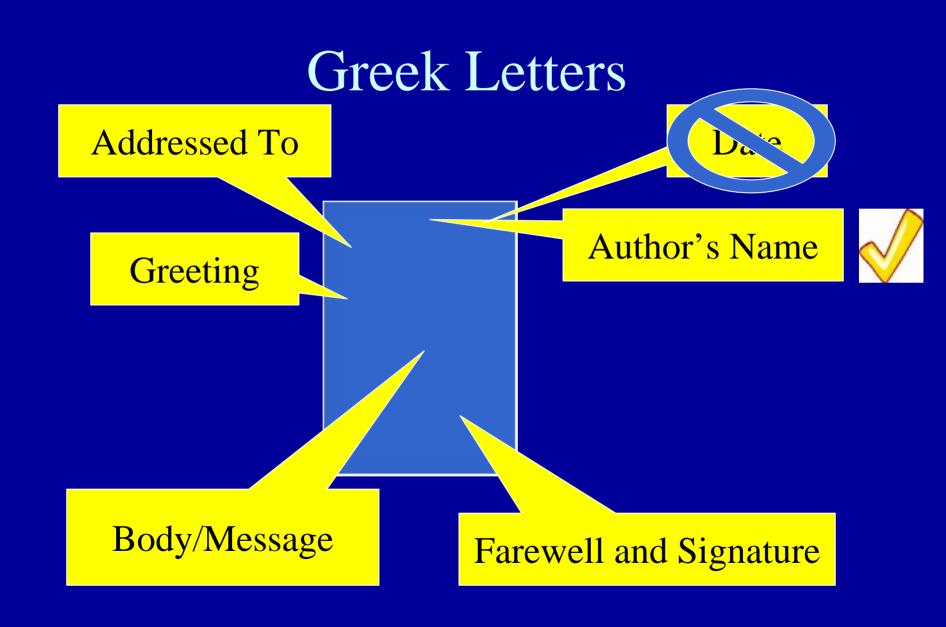
- επιστολη (epistole) "Message" "Letter"
- Conveys Idea of Authority
- Church Liturgy

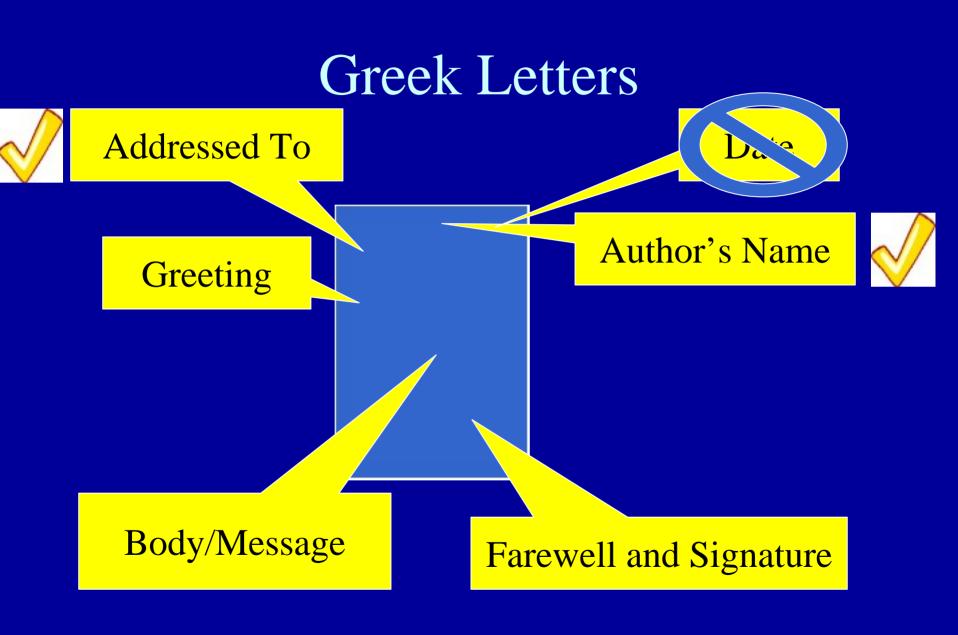


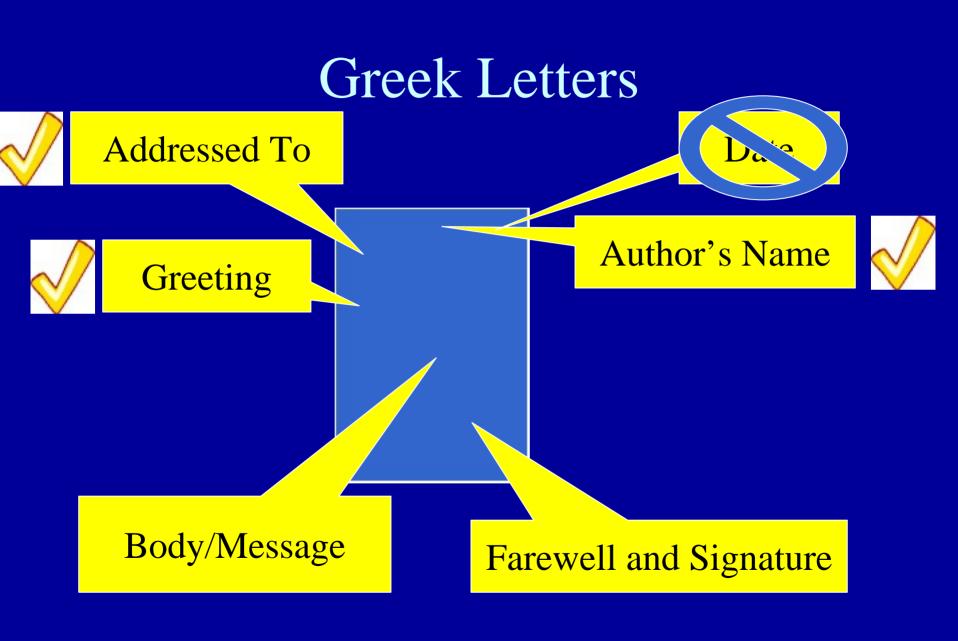
## Greek Letters

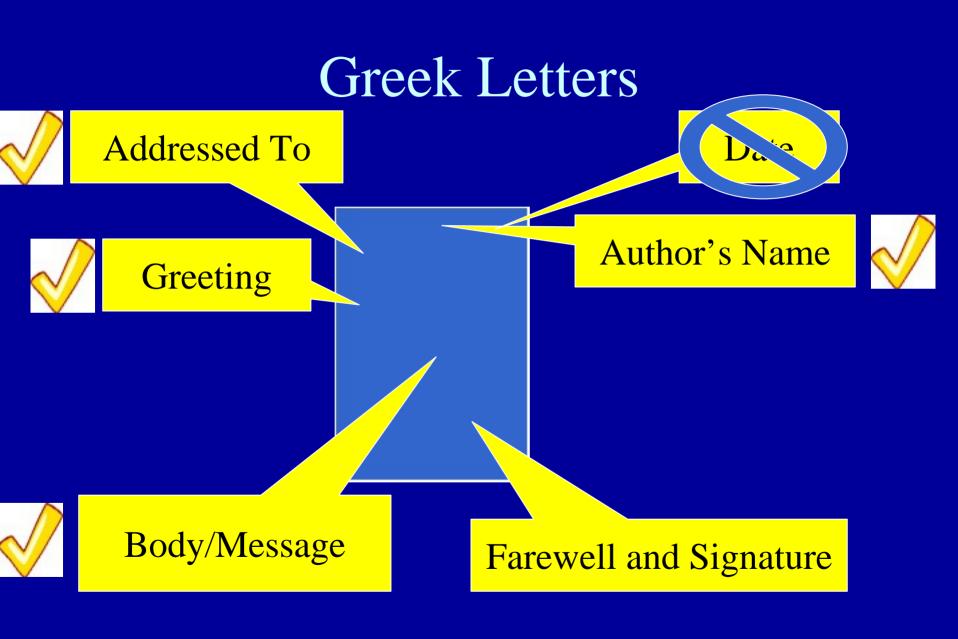




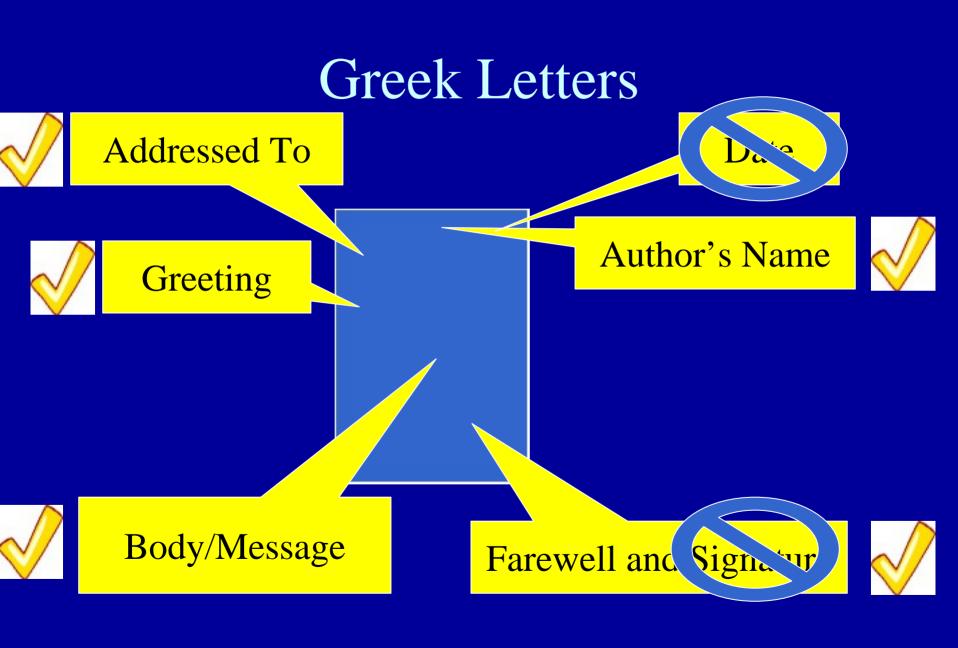




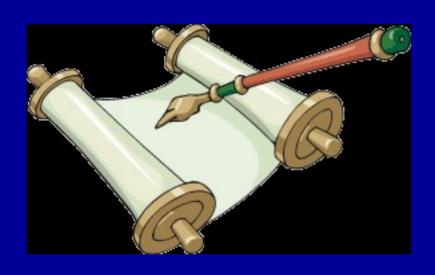








## Name of Writer

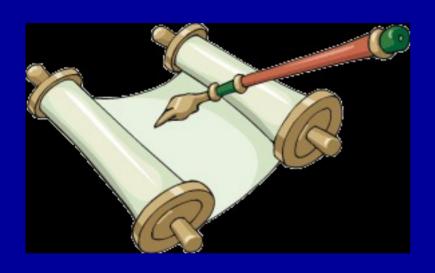


Paul, An Apostle ...



W. Mark Lanier, Attorney at Law

# Name of Recipient

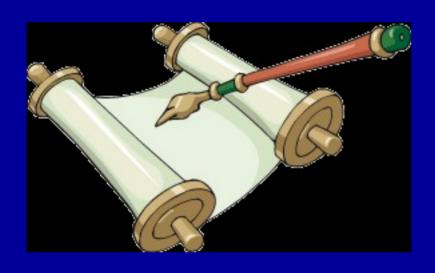


To the Churches in Galatia



Louis Miori
Champion Forest
Baptist Church

# Greeting





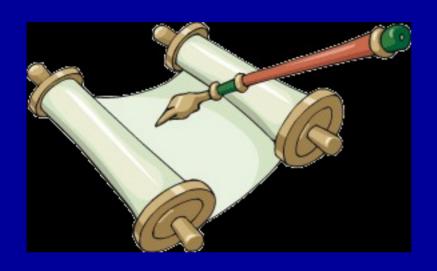
Typical: "Health"

Paul: "Grace and Peace

to You..."

Dear Saint Louis

## Main Message





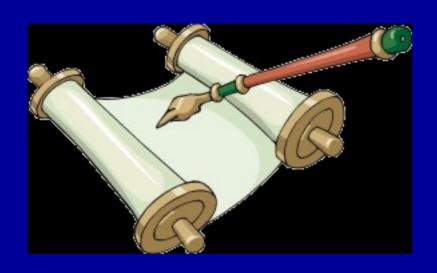
1 - Doctrine

2 - Application



Remember how I cleaned your clock in racketball Friday?

# Closing



Typical: "Farewell"

Paul: "The grace of our Lord Jesus be with your spirits, brothers. Amen."



Very Truly Yours,

W. MarkLanier

### How Were Letters Written?

- "Amanuensis" Secretary
- Rom. 16:22 "I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord."
- Paul Often Adds Handwritten Note: "See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!" Gal. 6:11

## How Were Letters Sent?

- Limited Official Postal Service (*cursus* publicus)
- Special Messengers / Trustworthy Travelers

## When Did Paul Write Galatians?

- Scholars: 48 60
- Issue of Galatia



## Region of Churches:

## When Did Paul Write Galatians?

- Scholars: 48 60
- Issue of Galatia
- Issue of Jerusalem Conference
  - Public or Private
  - Apostolic Letter
- Limited Relevance

# Why Between 2 Corinthians and Ephesians?

- Gospels (Chronological)
- History
- Paul's Letters to Churches
- Paul's Letters to People
- General Letters
- Prophecy

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# How Do We Read Epistles?

• KEY: The "Occasion"

## Theological Term De Jour

#### **OCCASION:**

What circumstances and events motivated or caused the letter?

## How Do We Read Epistles?

- KEY: The "Occasion"
- Technique:
  - Read Background (Town, People, Bible Passages, etc.)
    - Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible
  - Read Whole Letter (Make "Occasion" Notes)
  - Work Down to Smaller Passages
  - Understand "Then" and Apply Now

## The Occasion for Galatians

- Heresy Taught By Others
- Authority of Paul
- Authority of Paul's Message
- Legalism vs. Grace

## Galatians Divisions

- Necessary History for Understanding the Issues and Paul's Teaching (1 and 2)
- Correct Doctrine to Counter the Heresy (3 and 4)
- Real Life Application of Teaching (5 and 6)

• Paul's Identification

"Paul, an apostle -- sent not from men nor by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead..."

(1:1)

Paul's Concern

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel -- which is really no gospel at all."

(1:6-7)

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## "Grace"

- χαρις charis: "a favor done" "a kindness"
- Paul: Singular Noun For a Specific Favor or Act of Kindness by God
- Grace = Sacrifice of Christ, a Historical Event
  - "I do not set aside the **grace** of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing." (2:21)

• Paul's Concern

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the **grace** of Christ and are turning to a different **gospel** -- which is really no gospel at all." (1:6-7)

# "Gospel"

- ευαγγελιον euangelion : eu = "good" angelion = "news" "message"
- Paul: THE Good News: Christ Died, Buried, and Resurrected

"I want to remind you of the **gospel** I preached to you ... Christ died for our sins ... he was buried ... he was raised" (1 Cor. 15:1-4)

• Paul's Concern

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the **grace** of Christ and are turning to a different **gospel** -- which is really no gospel at all." (1:6-7)

## Galatians 1

- Anything Else a Perversion (1:7)
- Anyone Teaching Otherwise Accursed (1:8-9)
- Paul Came Through Revelation, Not Laziness (1:14ff)

## Galatians 2

- History of Revelation and Teaching
- Confrontation of Peter
- Not "Acting in line with the truth of the gospel." (2:14)
- Before a Group "We know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ." (2:16)
- "By observing the law, no one will be Justified." (2:16)

## Core Passage 2:20-21

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the **grace** of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing."

## Points For Home

- 1. "Grace" Is An Event
- 2. The Event Saves Us.
- 3. This is Good News.