Study Questions Week 5-2

Assignment 5-2 for BI5532 NTHLT

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1. What are the two possible destinations for Galatians?

The two possible destinations for Galatians are the churches of Northern Galatia and the Churches of Southern Galatia.

1. What did Paul teach in Galatians concerning justification by faith versus works of the law?

Paul teaches that believers are declared righteous by God, both now and in final judgment, based on Christ’s sacrifice and in response to their faith in Jesus and not through obedience to the OT law.

1. What five evidences are usually used to dismiss Paul’s authorship of Ephesians?

The five evidences followed by brief description of supporting arguments are:

1. Theology:

* Cosmic Christology – emphasizes Christ status as Lord over the cosmos.
* Developed ecclesiology – different terms are used within Ephesians than Paul’s customary terms like local church vs universal church.
* Realized eschatology – Believers presently being seated with Christ vs. future

1. Vocabulary:

* Uses language not found elsewhere in Paul’s writings.

1. Literary style:

* High percentage of pleonastic elements used in Ephesians.

1. The relationship to Colossians:

* Many opponents claim that Ephesians was dependent on Colossians.

1. The impersonal nature of Ephesians:

* Lacks personal greetings that other letters include and has an impersonal ending.

1. What are the probable date, provenance, destination, occasion, and purpose of each of the epistles covered in this lesson?

Galatians: AD 48 or 49, possibly Antioch or Jerusalem, churches of South Galatia, False teaching, to defend the one true Gospel.

Ephesians: AD 60, Roman imprisonment, Ephesus, Not clearly identifiable, To declare and promote cosmic reconciliation and unity in Christ.

Philippians: AD 59, Roman imprisonment, The Church at Philippi, Thanksgiving and warnings against disunity/false teachers, promote Gospel centered unity.

Colossians: AD 60, Roman imprisonment, Colossae, False Teaching, Combat false teaching with the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ.

1. What is the ‘Colossian heresy’ and how does it relate to the occasion of Colossians?

The Colossian heresy was probably proto merkabah mysticism and it relates to the Colossian church because they were in danger of conforming to the beliefs and practice to their pagan and Jewish neighbors.