

# Galatians 1:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

## Analysis

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### **And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:**

Unlike other letters naming specific co-senders, Paul refers generally to "all the brethren" (hoi syn emoi pantes adelphoi, oi σὺν ἐμοὶ πάντες ἀδελφοί), strengthening his message with unanimous support. The plural "churches" (ekklēsiai) indicates multiple congregations facing the same crisis.

Absence of the usual thanksgiving section (compare Romans 1:8, 1 Corinthians 1:4, Philippians 1:3) signals urgent, confrontational tone. Paul launches immediately into rebuke without pleasantries. The term ekklēsia ("called-out assembly") applies civic terminology to Christian communities called from the world to belong to Christ.

The greeting's brevity contrasts with Paul's normal warmth, revealing the severity of crisis. When the gospel itself is at stake, pastoral tenderness yields to prophetic confrontation.

## Historical Context

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The churches were likely established during Paul's first missionary journey (Acts 13-14) in southern Galatian cities like Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe, or during his second journey in northern Galatia (Acts 16:6). These young churches with Gentile majorities quickly fell to false teachers following Paul's

departure. Celtic Galatians were known for volatility and rapid opinion changes, explaining their quick desertion (1:6).

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. Can we balance local church autonomy with unity around one gospel and one body of Christ?
2. When does pastoral care require confrontation rather than comfort, correction rather than affirmation?
3. What role do ordinary believers play in defending gospel truth when false teaching threatens the church?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	οἱ	σὺν	ἐμοὶ	πάντες	ἀδελφοί	ταῖς
<b>And</b>	G3588	<b>which are with</b>	<b>me</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>the brethren</b>	G3588
G2532		G4862	G1698	G3956		G80

ἐκκλησίαις τῆς Γαλατίας

**unto the churches** G3588 **of Galatia** G1053

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 16:1** (Parallel theme): Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

**Philippians 4:21** (Parallel theme): Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you.

**Acts 18:23** (Parallel theme): And after he had spent some time there, he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.

**Philippians 2:22** (Parallel theme): But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

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