

“Epistle: Paul Sends the Galatians a Letter”

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND SONGS

Act I

- Scene 1: In a marketplace somewhere in the Roman Empire (updated to 1950's America), Paul is arrested while preaching and while in jail reminisces about writing his letter to the Galatians. Paul sings the song “Epistle”.
- Scene 2: In the home of Reuben and Martha in Iconium in a region of Asia Minor known as Galatia, we meet the members of the Galatian church. First the women reflect on their lot in life singing “Women in the Church”. After the men join the gathering, they all look back on when Paul visited their town with the Gospel. “Paul Came to Iconium”
- Scene 3: Later at Reuben and Martha’s home, two important visitors from Jerusalem have arrived. Matthias and Joseph tell the Galatians of the importance of keeping the Jewish law with the song “Circumcision”. Lonely Hannah reflects on the difficulties of single life by singing “Widow in Galatia”. When a Jewish Galatian named Reuben supports their cause, Matthias and Joseph encourage him with “A Man Like You” The Galatian gentiles are troubled by this news that they will have to keep the Law.
- Scene 4: Back in his cell, Paul reflects on his decision to write his famous letter. He needs to remind the Galatians that salvation is by grace through faith, not through the Law. “Epistle” (Reprise)
- Scene 5: A Galatian woman named Ione wonders where all this will lead and sings “So What Then Is Faith?”. Her Jewish friend Martha comforts her.
- Scene 6: Paul closes his letter and sends it off.

Act II

The scene is split between Reuben and Martha’s home and Paul’s cell. Paul’s letter has arrived and is read. Paul begins by singing “Justify You (Foolish Galatians)” which explains that the Law can’t justify you; only Christ can put you right. As the Galatians join in, Matthias and Joseph storm off. Paul reminds them that there is “Neither Jew Nor Greek” in Christ. Younger Galatians wonder if they should “Taste and See” what the world has to offer. Paul insists they walk in Spirit “Fruit of the Spirit”. Finally the Galatians cling to what they have learned in Paul’s letter and conclude with “Epistle” (Finale)