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(5-3-1) Assignment

Questions

1. In what way should Paul's letters not be read?
2. Why should Paul's letters not be read as an epistle?
3. Why do we need to “*read between the lines*” when it comes to Paul’s letters?
4. What book was composed as an “*apologetic letter*”?
5. What are the sections of the apologetic letter?

Answers

1. *According to the author, Paul’s letters should not be read as an epistle.*
2. *Paul's letters should not be read as an epistle because they were not intended to be read as literary pieces of works rather as a letter to people.*
3. *We need to read between the lines sometimes because we don’t know what the problems are that Paul is addressing and we need to infer them because Paul never brings them up in the letters. He doesn’t bring them up in the letters because the people are writing to already know the issues taking place. Therefore, Paul does not need to tell him again.*
4. *The book of Galatians was composed as an apologetic letter.*
5. *The sections of the apologetic letter are as follows,*
“Epistolary prescript, 1:1 –5
Exordium (introduction of the facts), 1:6 –11
Narratio (statement of the facts), 1:12 –2:14
Propositio (summary of legal content of narratio), 2:15 –21 *Probatio (proofs or arguments), 3:1 –4:31*
Exhortatio (exhortations), 5:1 –6:10
Epistolary postscript, 6:11 –187”

TERMS

- **Apostolic Authority:** authority of Apostles through divine intervention.
- **Epistles:** a letter.
- **Exordium:** the beginning/ introductory part of the discourse.

SUMMARY

This chapter was about how to read the letters of Paul through different lenses. The author looks at the letters through a theological and historical lens. The author goes through how we need to read through the lines and infer certain information pertaining to the issues Paul is giving solutions to in the letter because the receivers knew the information already, therefore not needing to bring it up again which leaves us to having to infer.