

Walk With the Word

Acts 15

15:1-5 – The controversy over the need to be circumcised in order to be truly saved results in the First Church Council.

Some Pharisees declare that in order to become a true Christian, you first must be a Jew.

This includes circumcision and following the Law of Moses.

15:6-11 – Peter declares “by faith...we are saved through grace,” indicating that we are saved through faith alone.

15:12-35 – James confirms Peter's declaration but adds stipulations: abstinence from (1) things associated with idols, (2) fornication, (3) things strangled, and from (4) blood.

Why? Most likely that Gentiles would not offend *Jewish believers*.

A letter is sent out to *all the churches*.

15:36-41 – Beginning of the second missionary journey

Division of Paul and Barnabas over John Mark.

Barnabas takes John Mark with him to Cyprus while Paul and Silas return to Galatia.