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GOSPEL • PRAYER • MISSION • CHURCH



MACEDONIA

THRACE

BLACK SEA

BITHYNIA AND PONTUS

GALATIA

CILICIA

COMMAGENE

SYRIA

ABILENE

NABATEA

JUDEA

EGYPT

CYRENAICA

ACHAIA

ASIA

CARIA

LYCIA

PAMPHYLIA

CILICIA

CYPRUS

AEGEAN SEA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Philippi
Neapolis
Thessalonica
Amphipolis
Berea
Apollonia

THASOS
SAMOTHRACE

LEMNOS
SAMOS

LESBOS
CHIOS

EUBOEA
Athens
Corinth
Cenchreae
Sparta

SANTORINI

CRETE

Troas
Assos
Mitylene

Pergamum
Thyatira
Sardis

Smyrna
Philadelphia
Hierapolis

Ephesus
Laodicea
Colossae

Milet

Patara

Attalia
Perga

Antioch in Pisidia

Iconium
Lystra

Derbe

Tarsus

Seleucia Pieria

Antioch

Aleppo

Salamis

Paphos

Sidon

Tyre

Ptolemais (Acco)

Caesarea Maritima

Jerusalem

Alexandria

Cyrene

Euphrates River

Orontes River

Jordan River

DEAD SEA



Seleucia Pieria

Antioch

Aleppo

River

SYRIA

CYPRUS

Salamis

Paphos

Orontes River

PHOENICIA

ABILENE

Sidon

Tyre

Ptolemais
(Acco)

Caesarea
Maritima

Damascus

Jordan River

Jerusalem

JUDEA

NABATEA

N
S
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EGYPT

DEAD
SEA

The Breakdown

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)

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Acts 15:1-35

¹Some men came down from Judea and began to teach the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom prescribed by Moses, you cannot be saved.” ²After Paul and Barnabas had engaged them in serious argument and debate, Paul and Barnabas and some others were appointed to go up to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem about this issue.

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Acts 15:1-35

³When they had been sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and they brought great joy to all the brothers and sisters.

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- **The Battle for Unity (4-21)**

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- The Battle for Unity (4-21)
 - Debate (4-7a)

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Acts 15:1-35

⁴When they arrived at Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church, the apostles, and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to command them to keep the law of Moses."

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Acts 15:1-35

⁶The apostles and the elders gathered to consider this matter.

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- The Battle for Unity (4-21)
 - Debate (4-7a)
 - Peter (7b-11)

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Acts 15:1-35

⁷After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you are aware that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the gospel message and believe. ⁸And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he also did to us.

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Acts 15:1-35

⁹He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith. ¹⁰Now then, why are you testing God by putting a yoke on the disciples' necks that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹On the contrary, we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus in the same way they are."

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- The Battle for Unity (4-21)
 - Debate (4-7a)
 - Peter (7b-11)
 - Paul and Barnabas (12)

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Acts 15:1-35

¹²The whole assembly became silent and listened to Barnabas and Paul describe all the signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles.

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- The Battle for Unity (4-21)
 - Debate (4-7a)
 - Peter (7b-11)
 - Paul and Barnabas (12)
 - James (13-21)

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Acts 15:1-35

¹³After they stopped speaking, James responded, “Brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simeon has reported how God first intervened to take from the Gentiles a people for his name. ¹⁵And the words of the prophets agree with this, as it is written:

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Acts 15:1-35

¹⁶After these things I will return
and rebuild David's fallen tent.

I will rebuild its ruins
and set it up again,

¹⁷so that the rest of humanity
may seek the Lord-

even all the Gentiles

who are called by my name-
declares the Lord

who makes these things ¹⁸known from long ago...

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Amos 9:11–12

¹¹In that day
I will restore the fallen shelter of David:
I will repair its gaps,
restore its ruins,
and rebuild it as in the days of old,
¹²so that they may possess
the remnant of Edom
and all the nations
that bear my name—
this is the declaration of the Lord;
he will do this.

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Acts 15:1-35

¹⁹Therefore, in my judgment, we should not cause difficulties for those among the Gentiles who turn to God, ²⁰but instead we should write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from eating anything that has been strangled, and from blood. ²¹For since ancient times, Moses has had those who proclaim him in every city, and every Sabbath day he is read aloud in the synagogues.”

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- The Battle for Unity (4-21)
 - Debate (4-7a)
 - Peter (7b-11)
 - Paul and Barnabas (12)
 - James (13-21)
- The Unifying Letter (22-29)

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Acts 15:1-35

²²Then the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, decided to select men who were among them and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas, called Barsabbas, and Silas, both leading men among the brothers. ²³They wrote:

“From the apostles and the elders, your brothers, To the brothers and sisters among the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia:

Greetings.

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Acts 15:1-35

²⁴Since we have heard that some without our authorization went out from us and troubled you with their words and unsettled your hearts, ²⁵we have unanimously decided to select men and send them to you along with our dearly loved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷Therefore we have sent Judas and Silas, who will personally report the same things by word of mouth.

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Acts 15:1-35

²⁸For it was the Holy Spirit's decision—and ours—not to place further burdens on you beyond these requirements: ²⁹that you abstain from food offered to idols, from blood, from eating anything that has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. You will do well if you keep yourselves from these things.

Farewell.”

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Requirements for Table Fellowship (Unity)

1. Abstain from food offered to idols

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Requirements for Table Fellowship (Unity)

1. Abstain from food offered to idols
2. Abstain from eating blood

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Requirements for Table Fellowship (Unity)

1. Abstain from food offered to idols
2. Abstain from eating blood
3. Abstain from eating meat that has been strangled

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Requirements for Table Fellowship (Unity)

1. Abstain from food offered to idols
2. Abstain from eating blood
3. Abstain from eating meat that has been strangled
4. Abstain from sexual immorality

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The Breakdown

- Troublemakers in Paradise (1-3)
- The Battle for Unity (4-21)
 - Debate (4-7a)
 - Peter (7b-11)
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 - James (13-21)
- The Unifying Letter (22-29)
- The Results of the Letter (30-35)

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Acts 15:1-35

³⁰So they were sent off and went down to Antioch, and after gathering the assembly, they delivered the letter. ³¹When they read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement. ³²Both Judas and Silas, who were also prophets themselves, encouraged the brothers and sisters and strengthened them with a long message.

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Acts 15:1-35

³³After spending some time there, they were sent back in peace by the brothers and sisters to those who had sent them. ³⁵But Paul and Barnabas, along with many others, remained in Antioch, teaching and proclaiming the word of the Lord.

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Galations 2:1-21

Paul Defends His Gospel at Jerusalem

¹Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also. ²I went up according to a revelation and presented to them the gospel I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those recognized as leaders. I wanted to be sure I was not running, and had not been running, in vain.

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Galations 2:1-21

³But not even Titus, who was with me, was compelled to be circumcised, even though he was a Greek. ⁴This matter arose because some false brothers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus in order to enslave us. ⁵But we did not give up and submit to these people for even a moment, so that the truth of the gospel would be preserved for you.

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Galations 2:1-21

⁶Now from those recognized as important (what they once were makes no difference to me; God does not show favoritism,)-they added nothing to me. ⁷On the contrary, they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter was for the circumcised, ⁸since the one at work in Peter for an apostleship to the circumcised was also at work in me for the Gentiles.

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Galations 2:1-21

⁹When James, Cephas, and John—those recognized as pillars—acknowledged the grace that had been given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to me and Barnabas, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰They asked only that we would remember the poor, which I had made every effort to do.

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Galations 2:1-21

Freedom From The Law

¹¹But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face because he stood condemned. ¹²For he regularly ate with the Gentiles before certain men came from James. However, when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, because he feared those from the circumcision party. ¹³Then the rest of the Jews joined his hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. **UNSTOPPABLE**

Galations 2:1-21

¹⁴But when I saw that they were deviating from the truth of the gospel, I told Cephas in front of everyone, "If you, who are a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel Gentiles to live like Jews?" ¹⁵We are Jews by birth and not "Gentile sinners."

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Galations 2:1-21

¹⁶and yet because we know that a person is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we ourselves have believed in Christ Jesus. This was so that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no human being will be justified.

¹⁷But if we ourselves are also found to be “sinners” while seeking to be justified by Christ, is Christ then a promoter, of sin? Absolutely not! **UNSTOPPABLE**

Galations 2:1-21

¹⁸If I rebuild those things that I tore down, I show myself to be a lawbreaker. ¹⁹For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live for God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

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