

BEREAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Galatians 2:6-10

Wednesday October 11, 2023

Galatians 2:6-10 (NASB95)



⁶But from those who were of high reputation (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—well, those who were of reputation contributed nothing to me.

⁷But on the contrary, seeing that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised

⁸(for He who effectually worked for Peter in his apostleship to the circumcised effectually worked for me also to the Gentiles),

⁹and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

¹⁰They only asked us to remember the poor—the very thing I also was eager to do.

Group Discussions



- 1. Share your questions and observations from the inductive process for Galatians 2:6-10.**
- 2. What does Paul mean when he says that the reputed apostles “contributed nothing to him”? Judging from the context, is the tone negative or neutral?**
- 3. What is an apostleship to the circumcised? To the uncircumcised?**
- 4. In context, what does it mean to “remember the poor”?**

Flow of Thought in Paul's Autobiographical Accounts



1:11-12 / Paul's MAIN POINT: The Gospel is not of man. It is completely of God.

1:13-17 / God converted Paul from persecutor of the church to preacher of the Gospel

1:18-24 / Paul's first encounters with apostles of Christ's church

2:1-10 / Paul's summit meeting with apostles about his Gospel ministry

- Paul's Gospel ministry was not in vain despite the efforts of the false brethren

- Paul and the other apostles of Christ were in one accord!

2:11-21 / Even the apostles of Christ's church are not above Christ's Gospel

Agency of Man through the Grace of God

¹Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also.

²It was **because of** a **revelation** that I went up; and I submitted to them the **gospel which I preach** among the Gentiles, **but** I did so in private to those who **were of reputation**, for fear that I might be running, or had run, in vain. [?!?!]

³**But** not even Titus, who was with me, though he was a Greek, was **compelled to be circumcised**.

⁴**But** it was because of the **false brethren** secretly brought in, who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, **in order to** bring us **into bondage**.

⁵**But** we did not yield in subjection to them for even an hour, **so that** the **truth of the gospel** would remain with you.

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- **“but”** → played out in relation to man

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1. What does it mean that God shows no partiality?

Paul and the Other Apostles of Christ Were in One Accord Berean

- They had the same position on circumcising gentile converts (Gal. 2:3)
- They had the same Gospel message (Gal. 2:6)
- They had the same ministerial goals – proclamation of the Gospel (Gal. 2:7-9)
- They had the same source of strength for the work (Gal. 2:8)
- They had the same heart of compassion (Gal. 2:10)

God shows **no partiality!!!** (Gal. 2:6)

God is no “respector of persons”

Acts 10:9–19 (NASB95)

⁹On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray.

¹⁰But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance;

¹¹and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground,

¹²and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air.

¹³A voice came to him, “Get up, Peter, kill and eat!”

¹⁴But Peter said, “By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean.”

¹⁵Again a voice came to him a second time, “What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.”

¹⁶This happened three times, and immediately the object was taken up into the sky.

¹⁷Now while Peter was greatly perplexed in mind as to what the vision which he had seen might be, behold, the men who had been sent by Cornelius, having asked directions for Simon’s house, appeared at the gate;

¹⁸and calling out, they were asking whether Simon, who was also called Peter, was staying there.



God is no “respector of persons”



Acts 10:19–36 (NASB95)

¹⁹While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you.

²⁰“But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself.”

²¹Peter went down to the men and said, “Behold, I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for which you have come?”

²²They said, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, was divinely directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and hear a message from you.”

²³So he invited them in and gave them lodging. And on the next day he got up and went away with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

²⁴On the following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends.

²⁵When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped him.

²⁶But Peter raised him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am just a man.”

God is no “respector of persons”



Acts 10:19–36 (NASB95)

²⁷As he talked with him, he entered and found many people assembled.

²⁸And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean.

²⁹“That is why I came without even raising any objection when I was sent for. So I ask for what reason you have sent for me.”

³⁰Cornelius said, “Four days ago to this hour, I was praying in my house during the ninth hour; and behold, a man stood before me in shining garments,

³¹and he said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God.

³²‘Therefore send to Joppa and invite Simon, who is also called Peter, to come to you; he is staying at the house of Simon the tanner by the sea.’

³³“So I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”

³⁴Opening his mouth, Peter said: “I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show **partiality,**

but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

³⁶“The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)—

Eager to Remember the Poor!



Galatians 2:10 (NASB95)

¹⁰They only asked us to remember the poor—the very thing I also was **eager** to do.

Descriptive vs. Prescriptive

- **Descriptive:** Describes an event, situation, or state
- **Prescriptive:** Prescribes an action or an application

Eager to Remember the Poor!



James 1:27, 2:6 (NASB95)

²⁷Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their
⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court?

James 2:14–17 (NASB95)

¹⁴What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?
¹⁵If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,
¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?
¹⁷Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.

1 Peter 4:9 (NASB95) / Acts 2-3

⁹Be hospitable to one another without complaint.

1 John 3:17–18 (NASB95)

¹⁷But whoever has the world’s goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?
¹⁸Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

People of God and Poverty Alleviation



- What does Galatians have to say?
- What does the Apostle Paul have to say (directly and indirectly)?
- What do the other NT epistles have to say?
- What does the whole Bible have to say about how God would have His people engage the poor?

Paul's Mentions of the Poor



1 Corinthians 16:1–2 (NASB95)

¹Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.

²On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

Ephesians 4:28 (NASB95)

²⁸He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.

2 Thessalonians 3:10–13 (NASB95)

¹⁰For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. ¹¹For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. ¹³But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

1 Timothy 5:8–9,16 (NASB95)

⁸But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. ⁹A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, having been the wife of one man, ¹⁶If any woman who is a believer has dependent widows, she must assist them and the church must not be burdened, so that it may assist those who are widows indeed.

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God shows **no partiality!!!** (Gal. 2:6)

Upcoming Events



Sunday 10/15

- **Members' Meeting @ 1:30 pm [Fundraiser Lunch will be hosted by the Youth Group]**

Wednesday 10/18

- **BAM Bowling Night**

Friday 10/22

- **All Church Praise and Prayer**

Tuesday 10/31

- **Reformation Donations Needed!!!!**

PARTICIPANT SIGN-UPS
Regional Thanksgiving
Dinner
Sunday, November 19th
Dinners will be hosted
at various homes



Prep Questions



- 1. For Wednesday 10/25, read and inductively prepare Galatians 2:11-16.**
- 2. What does it mean for Cephas to be standing “condemned”?**
- 3. What would qualify as not being “straightforward about the Gospel”?**
- 4. How would you define the word *justification*?**

Group Discussions



- 1. To and for whom has God entrusted the gospel with you?**
- 2. How are you in when it comes to recognizing the grace of God in the lives of believers around you?**
- 3. How strong is your eagerness to to remember the poor? What are areas you need to grow in? What are areas you need to be careful in?**
- 4. Any prayer requests from questions 1-3?**