

GALATIANS

One Gospel for All

Galatians 2:1-10

Week 3 October 11, 2026

Pastor Mike Popovich

When we talk about the gospel as the good news of salvation, is there more than one way to that salvation?

ONE GOSPEL FOR ALL

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. 2 I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. 3 But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. 4 Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery— 5 to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.

Galatians 2:1-5 ESV

There is a true gospel.

There are a lot of false gospels. That is to say many gospels that actually do not deliver salvation.

After 17 years Paul is connecting with the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem.

Paul had brought Titus along as a test case to see if the Jews could convince him that to be saved he needed to be circumcised.

The command by God to circumcise all males had been practiced for 2,000 years since the time of Abraham.

Before Jesus circumcision was a reminder of God's relationship to us. After the cross the Holy Spirit living in us is our reminder.

THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL

After they finished speaking, James replied, "Brothers, listen to me. 14 Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name...19 Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, 20 but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood.

Acts 15:13-14; 19-20 ESV

This was a huge decision in the understanding and application of what Jesus did on the cross.

THE MISSION GIVEN

And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. 7 On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised 8 (for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), 9 and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. 10 Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

Galatians 2:6-10 ESV

This Gospel is entirely different from anything known to the world.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV

We are saved by grace and not by anything we might do.