

GALATIANS 2:1-10

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Then fourteen years later I went back to Jerusalem again, this time with Barnabas; and Titus came along, too. I went there because God revealed to me that I should go. While I was there I met privately with those considered to be leaders of the church and shared with them the message I had been preaching to the Gentiles. I wanted to make sure that we were in agreement, for fear that all my efforts had been wasted and I was running the race for nothing. And they supported me and did not even demand that my companion Titus be circumcised, though he was a Gentile.

Even that question came up only because of some so-called believers there—false ones, really—who were secretly brought in. They sneaked in to spy on us and take away the freedom we have in Christ Jesus. They wanted to enslave us and force us to follow their Jewish regulations. But we refused to give in to them for a single moment. We wanted to preserve the truth of the gospel message for you.

And the leaders of the church had nothing to add to what I was preaching. (By the way, their reputation as great leaders made no difference to me, for God has no favorites.) Instead, they saw that God had given me the responsibility of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as he had given Peter the responsibility of preaching to the Jews. For the same God who worked through Peter as the apostle to the Jews also worked through me as the apostle to the Gentiles.

In fact, James, Peter, and John, who were known as pillars of the church, recognized the gift God had given me, and they accepted Barnabas and me as their co-workers. They encouraged us to keep preaching to the Gentiles, while they continued their work with the Jews. Their only suggestion was that we keep on helping the poor, which I have always been eager to do.

Galatians 2:1-2

Then fourteen years later I went back to Jerusalem again, this time with Barnabas; and Titus came along, too. I went there because God revealed to me that I should go. While I was there I met privately with

those considered to be leaders of the church and shared with them the message I had been preaching to the Gentiles. I wanted to make sure that we were in agreement, for fear that all my efforts had been wasted and I was running the race for nothing.

Galatians 1:11-12

Dear brothers and sisters, I want you to understand that the gospel message I preach is not based on mere human reasoning. I received my message from no human source, and no one taught me. Instead, I received it by direct revelation from Jesus Christ.

God COMMUNICATES

God's leaders CONFIRM

Enemies CRITICIZE

NOTE

GOSPEL – message down from heaven about Jesus

CULTURE – how people on the earth experience life

Galatians 2:3-6

*And **they supported me** and did not even demand that my companion Titus be circumcised, though he was a Gentile. Even that question came up only because of some **so-called believers** there—false ones, really—who were **secretly brought in**. They sneaked in to spy on us and **take away the freedom we have in Christ Jesus**. They wanted to **enslave us** and **force us** to follow their Jewish regulations. But **we refused** to give in to them for a single moment. We wanted to **preserve the truth of the gospel** message for you. And the leaders of the church had nothing to add to what I was preaching. (By the way, their reputation as great leaders made no difference to me, for God has no favorites.)*

Sometimes the CLOSEST people are the ones we need the most PROTECTION from

NOTE

Galatians 2:7-10

*Instead, they saw that God had given me the **responsibility of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles**, just as he had given Peter the **responsibility of preaching to the Jews**. For the **same God** who worked through Peter as the apostle to the Jews also worked through me as the apostle to the Gentiles. In fact, James, Peter, and John, who were known as pillars of the church, recognized the gift God had given me, and they accepted Barnabas and me as their **co-workers**. They encouraged us to **keep preaching** to the Gentiles, while they continued their work with the Jews. Their only suggestion was that we **keep on helping the poor**, which I have always been eager to do.*

When God works in our HEART there is almost always conflict in our WORLD

In His church, God requires UNITY not UNIFORMITY

Matthew 5:17

Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.

Because of Jesus, we are free to walk in GRACE and FREEDOM

NOTE

Talk about it

1. Have you ever had a dream, goal, something that your life seemed to revolve around and your mind was fixated on - then you ran into something or someone who completely changed your perspective...?
2. How is the gospel message different from things that are culturally acceptable and expected?
3. Where do some of the greatest conflicts arise in your life... when you know Jesus is Lord but most of us are encouraged to live by the "wisdom" of the world?
4. In our life and walk with Christ, what do we experience GRACE and FREEDOM from?

5. What can you do this week to help distinguish the Gospel message that saves from things culture has burdened us with?