

Galatians 2:1-21 **Paul's Ministry to Gentiles accepted by Apostles in Jerusalem**

Paul, Barnabas, and Titus visit Apostles in Jerusalem – Confirming Message

¹ Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. ² And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain. ³ Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised.

Pressure by False Brethren resisted

⁴ And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), ⁵ to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

Peter, James, and John – Pillars – in Jerusalem – Extended Right Hand of Fellowship.

⁶ But from those who seemed to be something--whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man--for those who seemed to be something added nothing to me. ⁷ But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter ⁸ (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), ⁹ and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰ They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

Hypocrisy of Peter and Barnabas – Rebuked by Paul

¹¹ Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; ¹² for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

¹⁴ But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews? ¹⁵ We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, ¹⁶ knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

By choice died to the law – Crucified with Christ – To live to God

¹⁷ But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. ¹⁹ For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

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Facts Revealed:

Paul, Barnabas, and Titus visit Apostles in Jerusalem – Confirming Message [Galatians 2:1-3]

- ✚ Fourteen years after his private visit with Peter and James the brother of Jesus, Paul returned to the Church leaders in Jerusalem with Barnabas and Titus to authenticate his Message to the Gentiles. [Galatians 1:18-19, 2:1-2]
- ✧ Paul was concerned that he might be running in vain.
- ✧ Titus who was a Greek was not compelled to be circumcised.

Pressure by False Brethren resisted [Galatians 2:4-5]

- ✚ False Brethren in Jerusalem sought to bring them under bondage of Judaism.
- ✧ They did not submit to the pressure for even an hour.
- ✧ Their purpose was that the truth of the Gospel might continue for the Gentiles.

Peter, James, and John – Pillars – in Jerusalem – Extended Right Hand of Fellowship. [Galatians 2:6-10]

- ✚ Those who seemed to be in authority in the Church of Jerusalem could add nothing to the Message Paul and his company were carrying to the Gentiles.
- ✧ God shows no favoritism to any one.
- ✧ The leaders of Jerusalem saw that the Gospel for the Gentiles had been committed to Paul the same as the Gospel for the Jews was committed to Peter.
- ✧ The One who worked effectively in Peter among the Jews, also worked effectively through Paul among the Gentiles
- ✧ When the pillars of the Church, James, Cephas, and John Perceived the grace that had been given to Paul, and Barnabas, they extended to them the right hand of fellowship, that Paul and Barnabas should go to the Gentiles, while the Jerusalem leaders would go to the Jews.
- ✧ However they asked that Paul and his company should remember the poor.
- ✧ Remembering the poor was the very thing Paul was eager to do.

Hypocrisy of Peter, Barnabas and the Jews – Rebuked by Paul [Galatians 2:11-16]

- ✚ When Peter came to Antioch of Syria, he would eat with the Gentiles.
- ✧ Upon the arrival of a delegation from James (from Jerusalem) Peter withdrew from the Gentiles and separated himself out of fear of the Judaisers.
- ✧ The rest of the Jews, including Barnabas, followed the example of Peter and also separated themselves from the Gentiles.
- ✚ Paul viewed this behavior as hypocrisy
- ✧ Paul rebuked Peter before them all.
- ✧ If you, being Jews, live as the Gentiles, why do you compel the Gentiles to live as Jews?
- ✧ We being Jews, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law.
- ✧ For by the works of the Law no flesh shall be justified.

By choice died to the law – Crucified with Christ – To live to God [Galatians 2:17-21]

- ✚ Christ is not a minister of sin, even though we seeking to be justified by Christ are found to be sinners.
- ✧ If we attempt to put ourselves back under the law, we make ourselves transgressors.
- ✧ I died to the Law that I might live to God.
- ✧ I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.
- ✧ I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.
- ✧ **I do not set aside the grace of God**, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died in vain.