

**WELCOME!**  
**Friday Men's Breakfast**

**February 26, 2021**



# The Life of the Apostle Paul

**#7 – “The Council at Jerusalem”**

***Acts 15:1–21***

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# Main Series Takeaways

## 1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

## Philippians 1:21

For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

## Big Idea:

Paul modeled a life *surrendered* to Jesus Christ for us to follow.

# Antioch & Jerusalem— Acts 15



## 2 Major Concerns in Acts 15

- The first is theological and focuses on the question, “What does the gospel of Jesus Christ teach about how one is saved?”
- The second is the practical issue of table fellowship, including the LORD’s supper, and focuses on the question, “How could Jewish Christians who were trying to honor the Jewish purity laws celebrate the LORD’s supper alongside Gentiles who were ritually “unclean”?”

# The Big Idea

Paul and Barnabas were more concerned about the gospel reaching the nations than they were about keeping control of the Church within Judaism.

## Galatians 2:1-5

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. 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. But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. Yet because of

## Galatians 2:1–5

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—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 3:21–26

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. Now before faith came, we were held captive under law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be

## Galatians 3:21–26

revealed. So then the law was our guardian until Christ came in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith in Christ Jesus.

# The 4 Things Gentiles Were to Abstain From

“All four of the “apostolic decrees” are found in Lev 17 and 18 as requirements expected of resident aliens: abstinence from pagan sacrifices (17:8), blood (17:10–14), strangled meat (17:13), and illicit sexual relationships (18:6–23).

# The Big Idea

Paul and Barnabas were more concerned about the gospel reaching the nations than they were about keeping control of the Church within Judaism.

# Discussion Questions

1. What do you see as current ways to apply the Big Idea from Acts 15:1–21?
2. Have you encountered any additional requirements to the gospel that may make it unnecessarily difficult for someone to come to Christ and His Church?

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