

A Study of the Epistles of Paul

NT Survey Lesson 105--Galatians 2

Introduction: In this chapter Paul continues to affirm that his apostleship and message did not come from man but from God. But now he goes further by showing that he was from the beginning of his work recognized by the rest of the apostles as an apostles to the Gentiles. Furthermore on one occasion Paul had to correct Peter for misapplying the principles of the gospel contained in Paul's preaching.

Lesson aim: To show that Paul's apostleship and gospel message were respected by Peter, James and John and should be by us as well.

Paul is endorsed by the pillars of the Jerusalem church--Gal. 2:1-10

1. How much time had elapsed between Paul's journey to Syria and Cilicia until the episode described in this chapter? Is this the benevolent journey of Ac. 11:27-30 or the Jerusalem meeting of Ac. 15?
2. Why did Paul and Barnabas go up to Jerusalem? What did Paul do while there? Why?
3. What did Paul say about Titus? Why do we need to know this?
4. Why had this whole meeting come about according to v. 4? Was the meeting at Jerusalem designed to deal with the matter of the Gentiles and their obligations to the Law?
5. Does the text indicate that Paul had already made a preaching trip into the Galatian region? (v. 5)
6. Did those of reputation in Jerusalem contribute anything to Paul's knowledge of the gospel at this point? Rather, what did they do?
7. Whom had God entrusted to preach the gospel to the Jews? The Gentiles? How did Paul compare himself to Peter?

8. Did James, Cephas, and John regard Paul's apostleship to the Gentiles as theirs to the Jews? How did they show their endorsement of Paul?
9. What request did they make of Paul?

Paul rebukes Peter for hypocrisy in his dealings with Gentiles-- Gal. 1:11-21

1. Had Peter given his endorsement to the revelation of the Spirit at the Jerusalem meeting? When Peter came to Antioch did he at first eat with the Gentiles? Does the record imply that Peter might have eaten foods with the Gentiles that the Jews under Law would not have eaten?
2. After certain Jews came to Antioch, what did Peter do? Why?
3. Did Peter stand to be condemned in doing this? Why?
4. What effect did Peter's conduct have on the others, including Barnabas?
5. What did Paul do to Peter and the rest who followed him?
6. What in effect was Peter asking the Gentiles to do? Was this right?
7. What realization did Peter and Paul have when they obeyed the gospel? (i.e. they realized that they could not be saved how?) In whom and what did they place their faith for justification? By what had they been condemned as sinners?
8. If Peter and Paul as Christians turned back to the Law of Moses as their standard of conduct, what would they be made by their violation of it? What would this then make Christ? (v. 17) What would it make of Paul who was now rebuilding what he once destroyed?
9. The Law made Paul aware of what? Why did Paul then die to the Law?
10. Describe what had happened to Paul in his conversion (v. 20).
11. If people could have been justified by law (particularly the Law of Moses) what would have been unnecessary? To affirm salvation by law

(particularly the Law of Moses) without the death of Christ is to nullify what?

12. Thought question: What is the message of each of two paragraphs we have studied?