

## **Galatians 2:11-21 “Justification by Grace through Faith Alone”**

- If our solar system was out of sync one millionth of a fraction, chaos would ensue for us
- In this same way, if the doctrine of justification is lost, the church would be ruined
- All are prone from being led astray in these truths, even the apostle was led astray
- Because of Peter’s compromise with the Judiazers the whole church was in jeopardy
- Peter’s vision of food coming down from heaven, God was saving Gentiles (Acts 11)
- The Jews accepted the Gentiles as receiving the Gospel & they sent Barnabas & Saul
- Then there was the Jerusalem council decision, Gentiles not required to circumcise
- Paul now faces a difficult situation in Galatia: Peter has joined some Judiazers

### **I. The Concern: Peter & the Jews Were out of Step with the Gospel (11-15)**

- “but” highlights the concern between Paul & the Jerusalem apostles & believing Jews
- Peter was eating with the Gentiles but was now withdrawing because of the Judiazers
- Paul withstood him to his face, because Peter stood condemned because of his actions
- Peter was condemned because he aligned himself with men who were in clear error
- V 12 Peter ate with the Gentiles at church, & intimately with them in their homes
- This gradual withdrawing of Peter & Jewish Christians including Barnabas was bad
- It created a divide in the fellowship and led to gross hypocrisy by Peter the apostle
- Even Barnabas, who championed the freedom of the Gentiles with the apostle Paul
- Paul reacted swiftly & publicly rebuking Peter because of Gospel compromise
- The conduct of these Jewish Christians was not in step or light with the Gospel

### **II. The Correction: Salvation By Grace Through Faith In Christ (16-21)**

- Vs 15 Paul highlights the Gentiles lived without God’s revelation as Gentile sinners
  - Vs 16 Paul continues, that the Jews knew salvation was not by works of the law
- 1) A person [or *man*] is not justified by works of the law
  - 2) A personal sense, “so *we* have believe in Christ in order to be justified”
  - 3) A universal sense: “by works of the law no one [no living flesh] will be justified”
- Vs 17, if the Judiazers are right, then Paul, Peter, Barnabas have fallen from grace
  - V 18 those seeking to live under law become sinners not those who are free from it
  - Vs 19 In Christ Paul died to the law so that he could live to God, Law brings death
  - Vs 20 Paul died in Christ, and now lives through Christ who loved him & died for him
  - Vs 21 If Paul begins to live again by the law, he calls God a liar & nullifies grace