



## The True Gospel: Our Source of Fellowship and Ministry Partnership

*Galatians 2:1-10*

### THE EVENT: PAUL EXPLAINS HIS GOSPEL MESSAGE TO THE JERUSALEM APOSTLES

#### 1. God directs Paul's path back to Jerusalem for a purpose.

**Gal. 2:1** Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. 2 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.

#### 2. Titus is presented as a case study

**Gal. 2:3** But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.

#### 3. A purposed and private meeting is held to confirm unity

**Gal. 2:4** Yet because of 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— 5 to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.

### THE RESULT: PAUL'S GOSPEL MESSAGE AFFIRMED

#### 1. Paul's role, authority, and message are validated.

**Gal. 2:6** And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. 7 On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised 8 (for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles),

#### 2. Apostolic fellowship is extended to Paul

**Gal. 2:9** and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

#### 3. Good works are encouraged

**Gal. 2:10** Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

NOTES:

## THE "GRACE THAT WAS GIVEN" TO PAUL:

**Eph. 3:8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, *this grace was given*, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

## THE CONCLUSION: THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL....

### 1. ...is one and unchanging.

**Eph. 4:4** There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

### 2. ...must be maintained.

**2 Tim. 1:14** By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

**1 Tim. 3:15** if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

## REVIEW/DISCUSS:

1. Take time to evaluate your understanding of the gospel message. Why is it important to develop a clear grasp of the contents of the gospel? One way to gain a solid grasp is to examine how Paul and others publicly communicated the gospel details. What elements are shared in the following proclamations in :

Acts 2:14-40 | 3:12-26 | 4:8-12 | 5:30-32 | 8:32-35 | 10:34-43  
13:16-41 | 17:2-3 | 17:22-31 | 26:19-23 | 28:23-31

2. Growth in your understanding of, and trust in, the gospel correlates to the quality of life you experience with God. Make a list of times when you experienced greater clarity around the core gospel elements. How did that clarity influence the way you live?

## APPLY:

3. Set aside a half an hour each day this week to read the book of Galatians. In it, Paul communicates what the power of the gospel accomplishes in the life of the believer (salvation and sanctification). Continue to journal verses or sections that made you feel encouraged, grateful, hopeful, and/or convicted.

### SONGS

Holy Forever  
Only A Holy God  
Just As I Am  
Yet Not I But Christ Through Me  
Great Are You Lord

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