

Questions on Galatians chapter 2

1. Was this visit to Jerusalem the “famine” trip of Acts 11:30 or the so-called “council” meeting of Acts chapter 15? Verse 1.

2. What was the purpose of Paul’s trip to Jerusalem? Verse 2.

3. Some have said that Titus was a “representative test case”? What would the “test case” have been about? Verse 3.

4. Who were the “false brethren” and what was the “bondage” they were seeking? Verse 4.

5. What was it that Paul refused to give “place by subjection”? Verse 5.

6. Was Paul dependent upon the men of reputation for his knowledge of the truth? Why does he so carefully detail his visits to Jerusalem in chapters 1 and 2? Verse 6.

7. What additional truth did Paul learn from his meeting with the acknowledged leaders of the church? Verse 6.

8. What was the difference of “the gospel of the un-circumcision” and “the gospel of the circumcision”? Verse 7.

9. What did God do to counteract the understanding in the early church that all God’s promises were for Jews alone and no Gentile could be admitted to these privileges? Do you think the early disciples would have ever understood the universal nature of Christianity if Paul had not been in the picture? Verse 8.

10. Who was the James mentioned here? What agreement was reached between Paul and James, Peter, and John? Verse 9.

11. What request did the leaders at Jerusalem make of Paul? What evidence do we have that he did it? Verse 10.

12. What does this incident illustrate about the idea that Peter was the first pope and that the pope is infallible in matters of doctrine? Verse 11.

13. What was the mistake Peter made? If this happened previous to the “council” in Jerusalem, why should the experience of Peter in Acts 10 earlier have caused him to know better? Verse 12.

14. What is dissimulation? What was the specific thing Peter and the others did that Paul condemned as “dissimulation”? Verse 13.

15. Did Paul do right in rebuking Peter publicly? Did he fail to respect Peter as an inspired apostle or was he correcting a wrong as an inspired apostle in his own right? Verse 14.

16. How were they Jews by nature? How did Paul describe the Gentiles while speaking as a Jew to Jews? Verse 15.

17. Does “the faith of Christ” refer to the gospel or to believing in Christ? (This is an important question. Remember Paul is stating the grounds of justification. Is our personal faith the grounds of justification?) What did “even” those who were Jews by nature have to do? Verse 16.

18. The phrase “the works of the law” lacks the article “the” in the original text so the meaning could be any law, but the context leads us to understand the Law of Moses. Men are not justified by what, but by what? Verse 16.

19. Could this refer to the conduct of Peter? Thus: Peter was specifically instructed to go to a Gentile’s home (Acts 10:20). He defended his conduct on the basis that the Lord told him to do it (Acts 11:1-18). If eating with Gentiles was sinful, then Christ, who directed Peter to do it, was a “minister of sin.” What was Peter’s reaction to such an absurd conclusion? Verse 17.

20. What did Paul destroy? On what basis would he become a transgressor for that? Verse 18.

21. How was Paul “dead to the law”? Verse 19.

22. What is the paradox in this verse? Verse 20.

23. How would someone frustrate (nullify or set aside) the grace of God? Verse 21.

24. If man could become righteous or justified by the Law, what does that say about the death of Christ? If sinners can be saved without ever having obeyed the gospel of Christ, what does that say about the death of Christ? Verse 21.