



SESSION 6 - THE EARLY CHURCH

1. _____: The Early Conflict (Acts 15:1-21)

¹⁵ But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.”...⁷ And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸ And God, who knows the heart, **bore witness** to them, by **giving them the Holy Spirit** just as he did to us, ⁹ and he **made no distinction** between us and them, having **cleansed their hearts by faith**. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by **placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear**? ¹¹ **But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.**”

Acts 15:1, 7-11

2. THE SEQUEL: “Not _____ with the truth of the _____” (Gal 2:7-14)

¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For before certain men came from James, **he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party**. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that **even Barnabas** was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴ But when **I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel**, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

Gal 2:11-14

3. _____: By _____ & through _____, not _____

(Gal 2:15-21)

¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶yet we know that a person is **not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ**, so we also **have believed** in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified **by faith** in Christ and **not by works** of the law, because **by works of the law no one will be justified**. ...²¹I do not nullify the **grace of God**, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

Gal 2:15-16, 21

JUSTIFICATION means our _____ before God

4. BY _____: _____-receivers and sons of _____

(Gal 3:1-9)

⁷Know then that it is **those of faith** who are the **sons of Abraham**. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles **by faith**, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." ⁹So then, **those who are of faith** are blessed along with Abraham, **the man of faith**.

Gal 3:7-9

5. _____: Fulfilled the law by his _____ and _____ obedience

(Gal 3:10-14)

¹⁰For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "**Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.**"... ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law **by becoming a curse for us**—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— ¹⁴so that in Christ Jesus the **blessing of Abraham** might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the **promised Spirit through faith**.

Gal 3:10, 13-14

ACTIVE OBEDIENCE - Jesus fulfilling the _____ of God's law (v10b)

Passive Obedience - Jesus suffering the _____ of God's law (v13a)

6. THE _____: _____ and _____

(Gal 3:15-24)

²¹Is 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. ²²**But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that** the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, **the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order** that we might be justified by faith.

Gal 3:21-24

7. SONS OF _____: _____ and _____ by his Spirit

(Gal 3:25 – 4:7)

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might **receive adoption as sons**. ⁶And because you are sons, **God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”** ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Gal 4:4-7

8. _____: New Covenant reality

(Gal 4:8-31)

³¹So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

Gal 4:31

9. CIRCUMCISION AS _____: _____ from Christ (Gal 5:1-12)

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a **yoke of slavery**.

²Look: I, Paul, say to you that **if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.** ³I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is **obligated to keep the whole law.** ⁴You are **severed from Christ**, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶**For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.**

Gal 5:1-6

10. LAW OF _____: Fulfilled by walking _____ with the _____ (Gal 5:13 - 6:10)

¹⁴For the **whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** ... ¹⁶But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh....²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also **keep in step with the Spirit** ...² Bear one another's burdens, and **so fulfill the law of Christ...**

Gal 5:14, 21, Gal 6:2