



The Jerusalem Council

Is It Faith in Christ Alone or Jesus Plus Something Else?

By Johnny Caruso on March 4, 2021

TODAY'S READING: Acts 15

It is hard for some of us that believe it is faith alone in Christ alone. We seem to want to add something to our faith. Some behavior, some doctrine, or the way we do something in the church world.

The Jews that had accepted Christ were having the same problem. They wanted the new Gentile believers to be circumcised to fulfill the law of Moses and be part of the body of Christ. So, they had a business meeting to discuss the matter.

Peter testified that God had already settled the matter when the believing Gentiles received the Holy Spirit without being circumcised (vs. 6). Then testimony was given by Paul and Barnabas about how God confirmed their ministry to the Gentiles with signs and wonders (vs. 12). James, the pastor of the church at Jerusalem, Jesus' brother and the author of the Book of James presided over the meeting and weighed the arguments against the scripture. He found the testimony of Peter, Paul and Barnabas rang true with the scriptures (vv. 15-17). The inclusion of the Gentiles in the gospel was God's plan all along.

To add power to the decision James sent two spokesmen from the meeting along with Paul and Barnabas because Paul and Barnabas were the ones who brought the argument. (This would add extra emphasis to the hearers of the letter sent by the council to the Jews that were arguing for circumcision.) In the letter they added some restrictions:

1. Dietary restrictions that were sensitive to the Jews.
2. Morality restrictions that were common to the Gentiles.

As Pastor Jeff preached several weeks ago from John 14, Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and no one can come to the Father except through Him (Jesus). Jesus is enough -- it is through faith alone through Christ alone that we are included in the family of God. All other ways are counterfeit!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for making a way back to You. Thank You that it is not Jesus plus what man thinks, but what Your Son did on the cross.

TOMORROW'S READING: Acts 16

Copyright © 2021 First Baptist Church, Fort Mill, SC, All rights reserved.

[Visit Our Website](#)

First Baptist Church Fort Mill, 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by fbcfortmill@comporium.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!