

Put the Word in Your Mouth Online Bible Study
From the Ministry of Angeline Williams And Save My Loved Ones Ministries

Galatians 2 Bible Study verses 1-14

If you recall in Galatians chapter 1 Paul's message to the Galatians is about being fooled and distracted from the true gospel. There are so many distracting messages among us now that it can be easy to get distracted by erroneous teaching if you have no understanding of The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

[Galatians 2:4] *But it was because of the false brethren secretly brought in, who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us into bondage.*

Paul identified some of the Pharisees as "false brothers" and said the only reason they joined the fellowship was to "spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage". They demanded that Gentile converts be circumcised and adopt the Jewish religious customs in order to be saved. Recognizing this teaching of the Pharisees to be in opposition to the Gospel, Paul and Barnabas refused to yield to their demands.

TWO POINTS: Christ followers have LIBERTY, and Judaism is bondage. The Jews want to put them in bondage with more rules and laws. Nothing has changed. Today it's even some Christians are attempting to put Believers back in bondage. Believers have been totally set free in Christ. Legalist think believing this gives people a license to sin. Why is bondage to law a distraction and why would someone want to be in bondage to the law? Because it gives us a role and places the focus on us. What you're doing or not doing instead of what Christ did. Christ is our righteousness, not a pinch of Christ and a sprinkle of you.

Question: What are your thoughts on this? What are your thoughts on The Law?

There are plenty of legalistic beliefs such as "if you don't tithe you are cursed", and "when you sin until you repent and "confess" your sin you have broken fellowship with God are some of more common legalistic beliefs.

Question: What are some legalistic beliefs that you see in the church now? What type of distractions do you deal with?

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[Galatians 2:6] But from those who were of high reputation (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—well, those who were of reputation contributed nothing to me. Paul is talking about the religious elite and supposedly wise ones. Today we might call them the Pope, pastors, preachers, deacons, etc. Often times people get hung up on a person's popularity, eloquent and entertaining speaking and overlook their teaching.

Question: How can a person avoid being misled by false teaching?

Paul Confronts Peter

Read Galatians 2:11-14 and share your thoughts on why Paul confronted Peter?

My thoughts: In order for the church to be victorious over false teaching, someone must stand up and confront it, even if it is uncomfortable.

The Bible is clear that it is our duty to rebuke those who are publicly sinning. Generally, we are to go to the person privately first and then with two or three and finally tell it to the whole church. In the case of Peter, the sin was about a doctrinal issue that influenced the entire church. It influenced not just that church, but the entire worldwide church. The issue was about grace and justification by faith. Paul made a public issue out of it because it affected everyone.

Unchecked sin breeds more sin – When no one stood up to the Jews preaching prejudice, the sin of prejudice spread. First to Peter, then to other Jews, and finally to Barnabas. Paul mentions Barnabas because Barnabas was a champion for the “justification by faith” and “Gentiles are equal” principles and he too fell. This is the result when no one takes a stand. And this is why we must actively speak out when we see believers in sin around us.

Question: Share your thoughts on unchecked sin breeds more sin.