

GALATIANS

CHAPTER 2



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1

15 Some men came down from Judea and *began* teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised in accordance with the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ²Paul and Barnabas disagreed greatly and debated with them, so it was determined that Paul and Barnabas and some of the others from their group would go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders [and confer with them] concerning this issue.



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2

Then after a period of **fourteen years** I **again** went up to Jerusalem, [this time] with Barnabas, taking Titus along also.



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² I went up [to Jerusalem] because of a [divine] revelation, and I put before them the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles. But / *did so* in private before those of reputation, for fear that I might be running or had run [the course of my ministry] in vain. ³ But [all went well, for] not even Titus, who was with me, was compelled [as some had anticipated] to be circumcised, despite the fact that he was a Greek.



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VER



4

When they arrived in Jerusalem, they were received warmly by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported to them all the things that God had accomplished through them.



ACTS 15:4 – The Historical A

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⁴ My concern was because of the false brothers [those people masquerading as Christians] who had been secretly smuggled in [to the community of believers]. They had slipped in to spy on the freedom which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us back into bondage [under the Law of Moses].



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A False Brother

Thayer's Greek Lexicon

STRONGS NT 5569: ψευδάδελφος

ψευδάδελφος, ψευδαδελφου, ὁ (ψευδής and ἀδελφός), **a false brother**, i. e. one who ostentatiously professes to be a Christian, but is destitute of Christian knowledge and piety: [2 Corinthians 11:26](#); [Galatians 2:4](#).



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3920 pareisaktos Secretly Smuggled In

3920. pareisaktos

Strong's Concordance

pareisaktos: brought in secretly

Original Word: παρεισάκτος, ον

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: pareisaktos

Phonetic Spelling: (par-ice'-ak-tos)

Definition: brought in secretly

Usage: brought in secretly, surreptitious.

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Cognate: 3920 *pareisaktos* (an adjective, derived from 3919 *pareisagō*, "enter by stealth") – what is "smuggled in" by *subterfuge and deceit* – literally, "introduced (imported) from close beside" (Souter).

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Thayer's Greek Lexicon STRONGS NT 1657: liberty, freedom

Thayer's Greek Lexicon

STRONGS NT 1657: ἐλευθερία

ἐλευθερία, ἐλευθερίας, ἡ (ἐλεύθερος), **liberty**, (from Pindar, Herodotus down); in the N. T.

a liberty to do or to omit things having no relation to salvation, [1 Corinthians 10:29](#); from the yoke of the Mosaic law, [Galatians 2:4](#); [Galatians 5:1, 13](#); [1 Peter 2:16](#); from Jewish errors so blinding the mental vision that it does not discern the majesty of Christ; [Romans 3:17](#); freedom from the dominion of corrupt desires, so that we do by the free impulse of the soul what the will of God requires: ὁ νόμος τῆς ἐλευθερίας, i. e. the Christian religion, which furnishes that rule of right living by which the liberty just mentioned is attained, [James 1:25](#); [James 2:12](#); freedom from the restraints and miseries of earthly frailty: so in the expression ἡ ἐλευθερία τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος (494)), manifested in the future life, [Romans](#)



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What's the REAL issue?

- At first you would think it's about circumcision
- Why was Paul speaking so strongly? Was it really that big of a deal?
- It was just a little Jewish custom of circumcision, right? It was a minor operation removing a part of the man's reproductive organ Note: this was not practiced on women.
- Nowadays it is done for medical or social reasons



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Here's The Issue?

To the Jews, it had a religious significance.
To the Jew it is fundamental.



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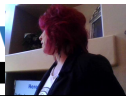
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⁵ But we did not yield to them even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel would continue to remain with you [in its purity].



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Truth Strong's Concordance | alétheia: truth

truth, but **not merely truth as spoken**; truth of idea, **reality**, sincerity, truth in the moral sphere, **divine truth revealed to man**, straightforwardness.

25 alétheia (from **227 /alēthēs**, "true to fact") – properly, **truth** (true to **fact**), **reality**.

[In ancient Greek culture, **225 (alétheia)** was **synonymous for "reality" as the opposite of illusion, i.e. *facā***



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"...I was compelled to write to you [urgently] appealing that you **fight strenuously for [the defense of] the faith** which was once for all handed down to the saints [the faith that is the sum of Christian belief that was given verbally to believers]. **4 For certain people have crept in** unnoticed [just as if they were sneaking in by a side door]. They are **ungodly persons** whose condemnation was predicted long ago, for **they distort the grace of our God** into decadence *and* immoral freedom [viewing it as an opportunity to do whatever they want], and deny *and* disown our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.



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JUDE



14

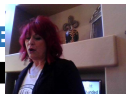
6 But from those who were of high reputation [whatever they were—in terms of individual importance—makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality—He is not impressed with the positions that people hold nor does He recognize distinctions such as fame or power]—well, those who were of reputation contributed nothing to me [that is, they had nothing to add to my gospel message nor did they impose any new requirements on me]. **7 But on the contrary, they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised (Gentiles), just as Peter *had been* [entrusted to proclaim the gospel] to the circumcised (Jews);**



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15

3708 horáo – properly, see, often with *metaphorical* meaning: "to see with the mind" (i.e. spiritually see), i.e. perceive (with inward spiritual perception).

Definition: to see, perceive, attend to

Usage: I see, look upon, experience, perceive, discern, beware.



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⁸ (for He who worked effectively for Peter and *empowered* him in his Ministry to the Jews also worked effectively for me *and empowered* me in my ministry to the Gentiles).



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17

WHERE DOES EMPOWERMENT COME FROM?

Jesus said....

"For John baptized with water, but you will be *baptized and empowered and united with the Holy Spirit*, not long from now."



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18

WHAT DOES EMPOWERMENT ENTAIL?

Jesus said....

"But you will receive **power** *and* **ability** when **the Holy Spirit comes upon you**; and you will be My witnesses [to tell people about Me] both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth."



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HOW DOES EMPOWERMENT COME?

And Peter said to them, "**Repent** [change your old way of thinking, turn from your sinful ways, **accept and follow** Jesus as the Messiah] and **be baptized**, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ because of the forgiveness of your sins; and you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**."



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AC



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IS EMPOWERMENT STILL OPERATING TODAY?

"For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is for you and your children and for **all who are far away** [including the Gentiles], **as many as the Lord our God calls to Himself**."



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AC



21

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN TO PETER?

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place, ² and suddenly a sound came from heaven like a rushing violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ There appeared to them tongues resembling fire, which were being distributed [among them], and they rested on each one of them [as each person received the Holy Spirit].



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22

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN TO PAUL?

So Ananias left and entered the house, and he laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came [to Damascus], has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit [in order to proclaim Christ to both Jews and Gentiles]." ¹⁸ Immediately something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized;



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ACTS



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⁹ And **recognizing the grace** [that God had] bestowed on me, James and Cephas (Peter) and John, who were reputed to be pillars [of the Jerusalem church], gave to me and Barnabas **the right hand of fellowship**, so that we could go to the Gentiles [with their blessing] and they to the circumcised (Jews).



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24

recognizing**1097. glnóskó****Definition:** to come to know, recognize, perceive**Usage:** I am taking in knowledge, come to know, learn; I ascertained, realized.**properly, to know, especially through personal experience (first-hand acquaintance)**

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25

the grace**5485. charls****More Than
Unmerited Favor**

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b.), 1 Peter 3:7; capacity and ability due to the grace of God (German Gnadenausrüstung), Ephesians 4:7; πλήρης χάριτος, Acts 6:8 G L T Tr WH; πικίλη χάρις, the aggregate of the extremely diverse powers and gifts granted to Christians, 1 Peter 4:10; used of the power to undertake and administer the apostolic office; λαβεῖν χάριν καὶ ἀποστολὴν, i. e. χάριν τῆς ἀποστολῆς, Romans 1:5; τῆς χάριτος τῆς δοθείσης μοι (i. e., Paul), Romans 12:3, 6; Romans 15:15; 1 Corinthians 3:10; Galatians 2:9; Ephesians 3:2, 7; δοθεῖση ὑμῖν, of the gifts of knowledge and utterance conferred upon Christians, 1 Corinthians 1:4; ἐδόθη μοι ἡ χάρις αὕτη, followed by an infinitive, Ephesians 3:8; of the desire to give alms roused by the God, 2 Corinthians 8:1.

26

The right hand of fellowship**2842. kolnónla****2. contact, fellowship,****Intimacy: δεξιὰ κοινωνίας, the right hand as the sign and pledge of fellowship (in fulfilling the apostolic office), Galatians 2:9**

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¹⁰ *They asked* only [one thing], that we remember the poor, the very thing I was also eager to do.



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¹¹ Now when Cephas (Peter) came to Antioch, I **opposed him face to face** [about his conduct there], because he stood condemned [by his own actions]. ¹² Before certain men came from James, **he used to eat** [his meals] with the Gentiles; but when the men [from Jerusalem] arrived, **he began to withdraw and separate himself** [from the Gentile believers], because he was **afraid** of those from the circumcision. ¹³ **The rest of the Jews joined him in this hypocrisy** [ignoring their knowledge that Jewish and Gentile Christians were united, under the new covenant, into one faith], with the result that **even Barnabas** was carried away by their hypocrisy.



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VERS



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**Confrontation •
Hypocrisy • Fear •
Followers**



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In Paul We See The Boldness of Confrontation [correction or judgement] Why is this important?



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...So **rebuke them sharply** so that they **will be sound in the faith and free from doctrinal error**, ¹⁴ not paying attention to Jewish myths and the commandments *and* rules of men who turn their backs on the truth. ¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure; but to the corrupt and unbelieving, nothing is pure; both their mind and their conscience are corrupted.



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Titus



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In Peter We See Hypocrisy [saying one thing & living another] Why is this dangerous?



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Test *and* evaluate yourselves *to see* whether you are in the faith *and* living your lives as [committed] believers. Examine yourselves [not me]! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves [by an ongoing experience] that Jesus Christ is in you—**unless indeed you fail the test *and* are rejected as counterfeit?**



34

In Peter we see Fear.

The Greek Word used here means to fear one, be afraid of one, lest he do harm, be displeased, etc.

Fearing man **MORE THAN** God Rather than **BOLDLY** standing for Truth

Remember Paul's words in Gal 1:10?



35

Am I now trying to win the favor *and* approval of men, or of God? Or am I seeking to please someone? If I were still trying to be popular with men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.



36

An In The Jews [With & Watching] Peter, We See Imitators i.e. Followers

Do **you** know God & His Word *More Than Enough*
NOT To Fall Prey To The Same danger?



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Beloved, **do not imitate what is evil**, but [imitate] what is good. The one who practices good [exhibiting godly character, moral courage and personal integrity] is of God; **the one who practices [or permits or tolerates] evil has not seen God [he has no personal experience with Him and does not know Him at all].**



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3 J



38

¹⁴ But when I saw that **they were not being straightforward** about the truth of the gospel, I told Cephas (Peter) **in front of everyone**, "If you, being a Jew, live [as you have been living] like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how is it that you are [now virtually] forcing the Gentiles to live like Jews [if they want to eat with you]?"



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VI



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¹⁵[I went on to say] "We are Jews by birth and not sinners from among the Gentiles; ¹⁶yet we know that a man is **not justified** [and placed in right standing with God] **by works of the Law**, but **[only] through faith** in [God's beloved Son,] Christ Jesus. And even we [as Jews] have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the Law. **By observing the Law no one will ever be justified** [declared free of the guilt of sin and its penalty].



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VER:



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What Is Paul Addressing?



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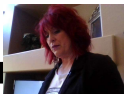
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The real issue is not circumcision, but should a Gentile become a Jew when they become a Christian? But behind that was an even bigger issue of salvation itself. Is it by works or by faith or a mixture?



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**Is salvation by works alone –
do you really have to do your
best & really work hard to get
there?**



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43

**Or is salvation works + faith? It's very
common for many to believe that
keeping the 10 commandments is part
of what being a Christian really is. In
other words, do as many as you can &
have faith for God to forgive what you
don't manage to keep. "Do Gooding"?**



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**Then there is the camp that says it
is Faith + works (of law) – in other
words you start with faith and then
you go on to "works"-- keeping the
law after you believe- but you still
had to keep the law. That's what
the Judaizes were advocating.**



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Paul is fighting for Christian freedom. To introduce the law at ANY stage is to put them under a curse. Why? Because the only “pass” under the law is 100%. If you can’t keep them all – you break the law.



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Deuteronomy 27:26 Amplified Bible (AMP)

²⁶ 'Cursed is he who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them [keeping them, taking them to heart as the rule of his life].' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'



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FREEDOM [IN] CHRIST



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¹⁷ But if, while we seek to be justified in Christ [by faith], we ourselves are found to be sinners, does that make Christ an advocate *or* promoter of our sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ For if I [or anyone else should] rebuild [through word or by practice] what I once tore down [the belief that observing the Law is essential for salvation], I prove myself to be a transgressor.



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¹⁹ For *through the Law I died to the Law and its demands on me [because salvation is provided through the death and resurrection of Christ]*, so that I might [from now on] live to God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ [that is, in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. The *life I now live in the body I live by faith [by adhering to, relying on, and completely trusting]* in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.



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VERS



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For the [remarkable, undeserved] grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹² It teaches us to reject ungodliness and worldly (immoral) desires, and to live sensible, upright, and godly lives [lives with a purpose that reflect spiritual maturity] in this present age, ¹³ awaiting *and* confidently expecting the [fulfillment of our] blessed hope and the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, ¹⁴ *who [willingly] gave Himself [to be crucified] on our behalf to redeem us and purchase our freedom from all wickedness*, and to purify for Himself a chosen *and* very special people to be His own possession, *who are* enthusiastic for doing what is good.



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Titus



51

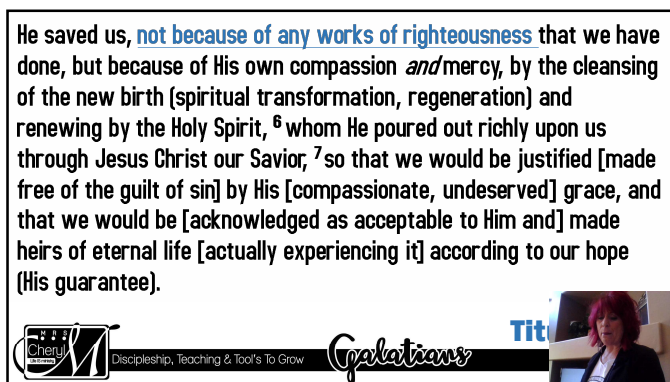


[IN]

adhering to, relying on, and completely trusting

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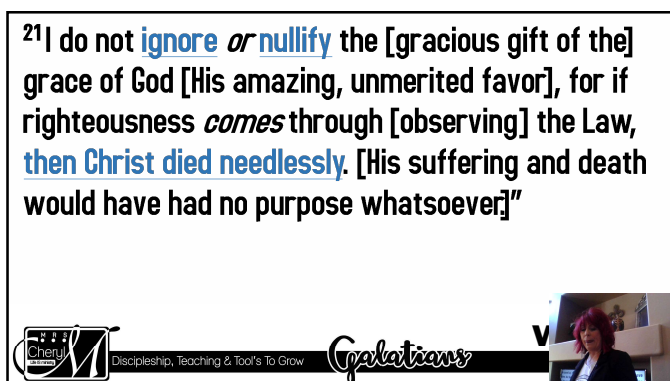
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He saved us, **not because of any works of righteousness** that we have done, but because of His own compassion *and* mercy, by the cleansing of the new birth (spiritual transformation, regeneration) and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out richly upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that we would be justified [made free of the guilt of sin] by His [compassionate, undeserved] grace, and that we would be [acknowledged as acceptable to Him and] made heirs of eternal life [actually experiencing it] according to our hope (His guarantee).

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²¹I do not **ignore or nullify** the [gracious gift of the] grace of God [His amazing, unmerited favor], for if righteousness *comes* through [observing] the Law, **then Christ died needlessly**. [His suffering and death would have had no purpose whatsoever]"

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**DO NOT CONFUSE WORKS OF LAW
WITH GOOD WORKS**

"WORKS" IS 2041 *érgon* is a deed (action) that carries out (completes) an *inner desire* (intension, purpose).


BECOMES "GOOD" WHEN IT IS...

c. beautiful by reason of purity of heart and life, and hence praiseworthy; morally good, noble,



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The Law of Liberty is that YOU CHOOSE to CHOOSE HIM – because you love Him, you trust Him, you rely on Him & you WANT to live in ways that honor all that He desires for you.

**HAVE YOU CHOSEN LIFE?
DO YOU CHOOSE CHRIST?**



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