

Grace Alone Notes

Acts 15:1-35

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Main Point: Jesus + Nothing = Everything

Dissension (1-5)

1. The word “dissension” means “to stand _____.”
 - They disputed the doctrine of _____ and debated with those who propagated it.
2. Because it was such a big issue, they were appointed to go to Jerusalem to ask the apostles and elders about this question.
 - When it says they were “describing in detail,” means they were “_____ telling forth.
 - This led to “great” _____ meaning their joy was over-the-top.
 - They were given a warm welcome and an exuberant embrace.
 - They gave God the _____ for His work of grace.
3. The dissension is described in verse 5.
 - The word “necessary” refers to something that “absolutely must be _____.”
 - They were teaching a “Jesus plus something else” gospel.
 - If you don’t get the gospel right, it will affect whether your sins are _____ and whether you will go to Heaven or to Hell when you die.
 - The wrong gospel will _____ the church.

Discussion (7-20)

1. The leaders of the church gave three different speeches.
 - _____ spoke first (7-11).
 - Paul and Barnabas followed.
 - _____ wrapped it up.
2. Main points of Peter’s defense.
 - He was chosen to take the gospel to a _____ (Acts 10)
 - Gentiles were given the Holy _____ when they were converted (Acts 10:43-44).
 - There is no _____ in Christ between Jewish background believers and Gentile background believers (Romans 3:30).
 - Requiring obedience to the Old Testament law was an unbearable _____ (Matthew 23:4, Romans 2:23).
 - Salvation is by _____ alone (vs. 11).
3. The assembly fell _____.

- The word for “silent” is “ _____ or muted.”
4. The Jewish people were used to God doing signs, so when these miracles took place among the Gentiles, it was a powerful _____ of His work (1 Corinthians 1:22).
 5. James’ two powerful points.
 - _____ of Simon Peter (vs. 13)
 - Exposition of _____ (vs. 15).
 6. The word “trouble” in verse 19 means “to _____, vex, or disturb.”
 - Because the gospel is a gospel of grace, these Gentiles were not to be burdened with additional _____ expectations.
 7. James proposed a _____ response which focused on personal holiness demonstrated by avoiding idolatry and immorality.
 - He also established the importance of _____ by urging them to limit their liberties for the sake of love.

Decision (22-35)

1. Because God enabled the apostles, the elders, and the whole church to reach a _____ decision, in verse 22 they sent two men to accompany Paul and Barnabas back to Antioch.
2. They put their conclusion in a _____ (vs. 23-27).
3. Paul had some very strong words in the book of Galatians for those who were leading believers astray (Galatians 1:6-9, 2:15-16, 5:1-4).
4. Verse 33 says they not only proclaimed the gospel, they were also present with the people before being sent back to Jerusalem.
5. Teaching provides information and preaching focuses on life _____ (vs. 35).

Action Steps

1. If you’re in conflict with someone, follow the dissension-discussion-decision process outlined in Acts 15 (Romans 12:18).
2. _____ your liberty out of love for another believer (1 Corinthians 8:9-13).
3. Discern error and _____ the gospel of grace at all costs (1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Jude 3).
4. If you’re not saved yet, now is the day of salvation.
 - We all have the same _____ (Romans 3:23).
 - We all have the same _____ (Romans 3:24).
 - We all have the same _____ (Romans 10:12-13).
 - Jesus promised a new yoke of love and liberty in Matthew 11:28-30).