

Galatians 2:6-16 **Peter is to Blame**

1. Those who seemed to be somewhat • Galatians 2:6-8

- a. By Acts 15, Peter's ministry is clearly diminishing.
- b. The James present in Acts 15 is not the apostle. Who is this? (Mt 4:21, Acts 12:2)
- c. Who is in charge here? Those who seem to be somewhat. They are zealous of the law. (Acts 21:17-)
- d. Unto Peter (an apostle) was committed the gospel of the circumcision.
 - i. This gospel included the law. (Mt 28:20, Jn 15:14, 1 Jn 3:22)
 - ii. Plus the additional commandments of Jesus (Mt 10:5-7, Mk 7:27, Acts 1:8)
 - iii. Peter says in Acts 10, it's an unlawful thing for him to be with a Gentile. (Acts 10:28)
 - iv. Peter was questioned about this before returning to a Jew only ministry (Acts 11:1-4, 19)
- e. When were Gentiles included in Peter's ministry? Certainly not before Acts 10. One chapter after Paul was saved. They were viewed as unclean and not to be companied with.
- f. Peter recalls in Acts 15 going to Gentiles. Paul was already saved at that time. (Acts 15:7)
- g. Paul has been ministering at least 17 years without the other apostles, to Gentiles.

2. An agreement to limit ministry • Galatians 2:9-10

- a. The leaders of this council agree that God has tasked Paul with reaching the heathen.
- b. Due to the differences of their commissions, James, Cephas, and John agree to limit their ministry to the circumcision (in this context believing Jews)
- c. The request is made to remember the poor.
 - i. Recall that the remnant had sold all that they had at Jesus' command. (Acts 2:45, 4:34, Lk 18:22)
 - ii. Paul agreed that this was good, and would take up collections for the poor saints at Jerusalem. (Rom 15:25-26, 1 Cor 16:1-3)
 - iii. The Israel of God is not the enemy, they are of the household of faith. (Gal 6:10, 16)
 - iv. Remember that whoever is troubling the Galatians at this point, they are coming after this agreement was made. This is not good.

3. Peter's fault • Galatians 2:11-16

- a. Those in Jerusalem continue to be zealous of the law. (Acts 21:17-20)
- b. Peter comes to Antioch to visit, and so do men sent by James. (Gal 2:11-12)
- c. Peter fears those of circumcision and thus separates himself from the Gentiles.
- d. Others follow to a degree that Barnabus joins in. (Gal 2:13)
- e. Peter visited where Paul was the apostle, and taught by his actions to separate Jew and Gentile contrary to the truth of the gospel. (Gal 3:22, 6:15, 28)
- f. These believers are not under the law. They are justified by the faith of Christ. (Phil 3:9)
- g. Though under another dispensation and purpose, the believers in the body and the remnant believers are all of God.