

THE CROSS OF JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY

Galatians 2

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- Why is it important for Christians to understand that there is only one way to receive salvation?
- What is accountability? What is necessary to assure accountability?

In Galatians 2, Paul emphatically reiterates that Jewish customs like circumcision are not required for salvation. He publicly confronts the apostle Peter for his hypocritical behavior, which had become a stumbling block for new believers. Galatians 2 securely roots our faith in Jesus and encourages us to embody the truth of salvation in our relationships and daily life. Join us in learning more about our salvation through the cross of Jesus.

Listen: The Cross of Jesus is the Only Way

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 2, hosts Scott Hoezee and Darrell Delaney discuss Paul's rebuke of Peter in Galatians 2:11-14. Reread Galatians 2:11-14, then read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, Paul's explanation of how he becomes all things to all people— for the sake of the gospel. Compare and contrast these two passages. What is the difference between Peter and Paul in these two passages? Why is Paul right to rebuke Peter and yet also right to become "all things to all people" (1 Cor. 9:22)?
- At the end of segment 2, Scott reminds us that "even for the apostles, even after the Holy Spirit came on them, they didn't instantly have crystal clarity on absolutely everything." Do you find that truth comforting? Why or why not?
- Do you think Christians today ever try to hold others to the standards of God's law that we ourselves can't keep? Why or why not? If so, why do you think we tend to do that?
- While reflecting on Galatians 2:21, Scott says, "Basically, Paul is saying: Look, if there were another road that led to salvation, any road at all, then Jesus died for nothing." Why is this so important for the Galatians to understand, and now for us to realize?

Related Passages

- John 10:14-18
- Matthew 28:16-20
- Acts 1:7-9
- Acts 10
- Acts 15:7-11

- John 14:5-14
- John 12:27-36
- Isaiah 49:6

Conclusion

Reflect on Darrell and Scott's closing conversation:

Darrell: "The cross in and of itself had to be the only way...there is no Easter Sunday without Good Friday."

Scott: "It is a message we want to embody so fully that we make others want to get in on that, too. We never want to talk in such a way that makes it look like we are drawing the circle of salvation smaller instead of larger."

Reflect on their words. What thoughts or feelings is the Holy Spirit stirring in you? Talk to God in prayer about those thoughts and feelings.

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