The Church Pulls Together - Acts 15C

Summarized situation until now.

Salvation Plus Nothing. Do good works after Salvation, Not to get Saved.

Acts 15:20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication, and *from* things strangled, and *from* blood. Numbers 16 Korah & the rebel Levites summarized.

Acts 15:22-35 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren: 23 And they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: 24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no commandment: 25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well. 30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: 31 Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation. 32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them. 33 And after they had tarried there a space, they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles. 34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still. 35 Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

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manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: 24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment:

- Romans 10:9,10 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
- 1 John 4:3 And every <u>spirit</u> that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that <u>spirit</u> of <u>antichrist</u>, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.
- Religious spirits like fear of loss of salvation, & fear of missing the rapture.
- 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- Church leadership stood against troublemakers.
- 1 Chronicles 12:17 And David went out to meet them, and answered and said unto them, If ye be come peaceably unto me to help me, mine heart shall be knit unto you: but if *ye be come* to betray me to mine enemies, seeing *there is* no wrong in mine hands, the God of our fathers look *thereon*, and rebuke *it*.
- Acts 15:25-26 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with <u>one accord</u>, to <u>send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul</u>, 26 Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Are there any men now have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
- Acts 15:27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell *you* the same things by mouth.
- John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, <u>It is finished</u>: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.
- Ephesians 4:30 And <u>grieve</u> not the holy <u>Spirit</u> of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.
- Acts 15:28-31 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye <u>abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication</u>: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.
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had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: 31 Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

Peter said to Simon Magus - Acts 8:21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy <u>heart</u> is <u>not right</u> in the sight of God.

Religious excuse making spirits believe lies & argue the truth.

Titus 3:10 A man that is an <u>heretick</u> after the first and second admonition reject;

1 Timothy 3 & Titus 2 referred to has qualifications for Pastors & leaders in the Church.

Acts 15:32-35 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed *them*. 33 And after they had tarried *there* a space, they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles. 34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still. 35 Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

Legalism around now bringing back all the Old Testament laws, feasts, & sacrifices.

Psalms 133:1-3 A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for <u>brethren to dwell together in unity</u>! 2 It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; 3 <u>As the dew</u> of Hermon, and <u>as the dew</u> that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

Ephesians 4:1-11 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. 9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

This verse 11 is used out of context for the 5 fold ministry teachings.

1 Corinthians 12 referred to for the list of all the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

- Ephesians 4:12-14 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- Hebrews 5:14-6:1 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,
- 1 Corinthians 6:20 For ye are <u>bought</u> <u>with a price</u>: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Pastor's job to care for the sheep & weed out evil so not afflict the sheep. More Service Notes:

- Ephesians 4:15,16 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
- Acts 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

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