


Galatians 2:1-10
Walking in
Rhythm with
the Gospel

GALATIANS: **Christ's Gracious** **Gospel**



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Situation: Judaizers

From ἰουδαίζω (ioudaizō): verb

live as a Jew, follow Jewish customs, live in the manner of a Jew

Overview

- Personal Defense. 1:11-2:21
- Doctrinal Explanation. 3:1-4:31
- Practical Application. 5:1-6:10



Confrontation

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, **fearing** the circumcision party.

Galatians 2:11–12

Replace fear of man with faith in God

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, **fearing** the circumcision party.

Galatians 2:11–12

And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

Galatians 2:13

All hypocrisy is rooted in fear or insecurity. That is why it is so out of step with the gospel. Insecurity is inconsistent with the gospel. When you feel insecure or frightened and are tempted to put up a front and avoid taking a stand for what you believe is right, the battle you are fighting is a battle to believe the gospel. The gospel tells us that the death of Christ assures us of God's love, and so it gives deep root and stability and security to our lives.

But more than that, the sheer beauty and power of Christ's resolve to suffer for me instead of putting up a front to save his skin shames me in my fear of man and my inclination to play the hypocrite in order to avoid suffering. Center your life on Jesus and his gospel and the root of hypocrisy will be severed.

John Piper

Root out hypocrisy by recalling your Gospel identity

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Galatians 2:13

Correction

But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

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Galatians 2:14

Correction: Justified by faith not works

¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners;
¹⁶yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

Galatians 2:15–16

What is justification?

“to be justified means to be declared righteous before the bar of God’s justice.”

Phillip Ryken

What is justification?

Justification is the instantaneous legal act of God whereby the believing sinner is credited with the righteousness of Christ who paid our sin debt and thereby declared righteous in the eyes of God via their position in Christ.

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Correction Two: Walk in Rhythm by Faith.

17But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! 18For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. 19For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God.

Galatians 2:17–19

Walk in Rhythm with the Gospel by Faith [reliance] on Christ.

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20