
SERMON OUTLINE

Disagreement in the Church

Acts 15:1-34

- I. The Conflict Erupts (Acts 15:1-5)
 - A. The Issue: Jews from Antioch claimed Gentiles must be circumcised to be saved (1-2a).
 - B. The Appeal: Paul and Barnabas objected and travelled to Jerusalem to settle the issue (2b-5).
 - II. The Conflict Discussed (Acts 15:6-21)
 - A. Facts: God saved Gentile Cornelius by grace (6-11).
 - B. Facts: God did miracles as Gentiles were saved (12).
 - C. God's Word: Gentile salvation prophecies (13-18).
 - III. The Conflict Resolved (Acts 15:19-21)
 - A. Grace as a doctrine: There are no other conditions (like circumcision) to the gospel (19).
 - B. Grace as an attitude: We will ask Gentiles not to offend Jews by their freedom (20-21).
- Two ways we must apply God's grace**

 1. *Absolutes/Doctrine*: Salvation by grace cannot be compromised.
 2. *Convictions/Relationships*: Believers with freedom must show sensitivity and grace in their personal behavior as an expression of love to those with other convictions.
- IV. The Solution Communicated (Acts 15:22-29)
 - A. Solidarity: Jerusalem leaders went along with Paul and Barnabas to deliver the decision (22).
 - B. Clarity: A letter explained the decision (23-29).
 - V. The Result: God used the conflict resolution to bring joy, encouragement and unity to the church (Acts 15:30-34).

Open Door Bible Church 4-21-13
