

Living with Confidence and Freedom

in the Grace of God

Acts 15:1-29

- I) God's "equation" for a life of grace in Christ must be clearly understood (v.1-11).

Hear the _____ + (Faith + _____) (v.7; 20:21)

= _____ =

("saved through the GRACE of the Lord Jesus," v.11)

= Holy Spirit + _____ + _____

(cleansed hearts by faith, v.9)

- II) Six reasons to confidently believe the good news of grace (7-28):

- 1) God _____ the Gentiles (v.7).
- 2) God's _____ displayed His acceptance by:
 - a. Indwelling those who believed (v. 8-9, 28; Gal 3:1-3).
 - b. Signs and wonders done among the Gentiles (v. 12, 28).
- 3) God's _____ is the only grounds for justification for everyone (v11; Eph. 2:1-10).

- 4) God's _____ foretold his plan to reach the nations (v.13-18; Amos 9:11-12).
- 5) Good _____ agrees with God's truth (v. 10, 19).
- 6) God's _____ discerned this authoritative truth (v. 22-28).

- III) Healthy _____ ensure everyone enjoys freedom in the Lord (v.20, 29; 2 Cor. 3:17; 1 Pet. 2:16).

Applying God's Word to Life

- 1) What are some of the ways you had previously understood the "equation" for life regarding spiritual matters?
- 2) How does your current understanding of God's plan compare to the equation in point "1)"?
- 3) How would you describe your level of confidence in the gospel of grace through faith in Jesus Christ? Why?
- 4) What challenges your confidence in the gospel?
- 5) What are some things you are tempted to add into God's equation for a life of grace? What are some things you too easily subtract out?
- 6) What are some freedoms you would willingly sacrifice if you knew you could help others understand God better?

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Acts 15:1-29

- I) God's "equation" for a life of grace in Christ must be clearly understood (v.1-11).

Hear the Gospel + (Faith + **Repentance**) (v.7; 20:21)

= **Salvation** =

("saved through the GRACE of the Lord Jesus," v.11)

= Holy Spirit + **Holy Living** + **Holy Works**

(cleansed hearts by faith, v.9)

- II) Six reasons to confidently believe the good news of grace (7-28):

- 1) God **pursued** the Gentiles (v.7).
- 2) God's **Spirit** displayed His acceptance by:
 - a. Indwelling those who believed (v. 8-9, 28; Gal 3:1-3).
 - b. Signs and wonders done among the Gentiles (v. 12, 28).
- 3) God's **grace** is the only grounds for justification for everyone (v11; Eph. 2:1-10).

- 4) God's **Word** foretold his plan to reach the nations (v.13-18; Amos 9:11-12).
- 5) Good **sense** agrees with God's truth (v. 10, 19).
- 6) God's **representatives** discerned this authoritative truth (v. 22-28).

- III) Healthy **limits** ensure everyone enjoys freedom in the Lord (v.20, 29; 2 Cor. 3:17; 1 Pet. 2:16).

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