



Title | Christian Hypocrisy
Series | Witness For the Defense
Text | Galatians 2:1-21
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Sermon Notes

Galatians 2:11 But when Cephas came to Antioch I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. **12** 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. **13** And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. **14** 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?" **15** We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners. **16** Yet 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. **17** But 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! **18** For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. **19** For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. **20** 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. **21** I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

Big Idea:

Galatians 2:21 – I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose. ESV

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read Galatians 2:11-12. Paul said he confronted Peter over Peter's sin. What was Peter's sin?

Tuesday:

Read Acts 11:1-17. Can you find examples of Peter's courage and conviction? Contrast this with the fear and compromising found in Galatians 2:11-12. What can you learn from Peter's actions in these two passages?

Wednesday:

Read Galatians 2:13. Why was Paul compelled to confront Peter in front of the other believers? Why was Peter's hypocrisy so dangerous?

Thursday:

Read Galatians 2:19. What does it mean to you to die to sin and live to God? Does this verse teach living by works? How does the concept of the Have To Life vs the Want To Life help us understand this verse?

Friday:

Read Galatians 2:20. If we choose to live by works rather than faith, what does Paul say this means regarding the crucifixion of Christ? Why do you think Paul said this?

Daily Prayer:

Father, thank you for the example of Peter. I am grateful that my salvation is based solely on my faith in Your Son and is not dependent on any work of my own device. I ask that you keep me from the hypocrisy of relying on works in my Christian life. Amen.

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