

Acts # 65 “Living Within the System” Acts 15

There’s no other salvation except in the Name of Jesus Christ alone (Acts 4:12) so, it’s salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone or its nothing.

In Acts, believers faced a serious issue in the early church; the Gospel of grace was proclaimed by qualified representatives of God indicating that man is saved by grace through faith and that salvation relationship with God comes as a result of God offering a free gift (free to us but very costly to Him) which man freely receives and he doesn’t have to do anything to earn it or work for it.

Paul and Barnabas preached this Gospel message to the Gentiles and they believed and churches started to sprout up in Antioch, Cyprus, all over Galatia.

The Gospel is biblical truth pertaining to the work of Jesus Christ on the cross and the Gospel has always been available, so that in every generation of every dispensation, those who were positive responded.

And so, what do you have to know to be saved; what is necessary to understand in order to be saved?

You must know something about the substitutionary spiritual death of Jesus Christ on the cross so that, as an unregenerate person, you can respond to the pattern outlined in Ephesians 2:8-9.

This means that most of the Gospel, including the resurrection is not understood until the person becomes a believer and has eternal life.

The Bible only emphasizes believe and add nothing to it!

We can’t be saved by water baptism, by renouncing sin, by joining a church or by any psychological gimmicks like raising your hand or walking down an aisle to the front of the church in coming forward.

These cannot save us because they are things we are doing!

When you add anything to faith in Jesus Christ for salvation, that is salvation by works which is not salvation at all.

Chasing sneakily behind Paul and Barnabas are men known as Judaizers, the Circumcision Party and their passion was to find Gentiles who believed they were saved and tell them that grace wasn’t enough; they had to be circumcised to be saved and they had to obey the Mosaic Law to be spiritual.

It is Jesus Christ who is the issue in salvation; the issue is not our sins because He was judged for all our sins.

The issue is not something we do because Jesus Christ finished ALL the work on the cross, as indicated when He said, TETELESTAI, meaning finished in the past with the result that it stands finished forever.

Satan blinds the thoughts of unbelievers who are seriously hurt when false issues are brought

into witnessing.

Satan uses believers with no biblical truth in their souls to confuse unbelievers.

Many believers who are very moral, self-righteous and living good clean lives are under a terrible curse related to their arrogance for teaching a false Gospel.

An example of a false Gospel is that you must not only believe in Jesus Christ but also make a commitment to Him.

If you don't, your faith is only academic and that's not only wrong, it's evil; so, there's a special curse on such people.