

Acts # 68 “Recognizing God-given Talent” *Acts 16:1-5*

As we’ve seen, the Jews in Jerusalem were no longer preaching a Gospel of grace but a Gospel of faith plus the work of circumcision for salvation.

That’s why Paul wrote the book of *Galatians* after his first missionary journey to clear the air regarding the problem of the Law infiltrating God’s grace Gospel of faith alone in Jesus Christ alone brought to us by His grace alone.

When the Jerusalem Council convened, they determined that there was no biblical justification for forcing Gentiles to be circumcised or that the Law should be kept by them as a means of spirituality.

Circumcision was not a salvation or spirituality matter but an expediency matter of not offending a weaker Christian and Paul remained firm in his position that circumcision is not necessary for salvation, a point he drove home in *Galatians*.

Timothy was the son of an unbelieving Greek Father and a believing Jewish mother; a truly mixed marriage.

Timothy was heavily influenced by his mother and grandmother who was also a believer so he had a strong spiritual heritage in biblical truth; in other words, he was taught all of the Old Testament Scriptures.

But this great spiritual heritage was of no use to Timothy however, until he was born again.

Timothy was converted at Lystra under the ministry of the apostle Paul during his 2nd missionary journey.

Paul had Timothy circumcised and he was ordained to the ministry because he recognized his own spiritual gift.

Timothy was sent to Corinth and that’s where he reached his capacity for leadership and failed miserably because the Corinthians were tough, hard-nosed and known for their hell-raising.

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