

Judaizers

We must remember that Jesus was a Jewish man, and most of His followers were Jewish

- Matt. 15:21-28
- We are brought in on their promises
 - They originally had us in mind as well, but they were given to them
- We learn what the promise to Abraham looks like when we see Gentiles folded in
 - Eph. 2:11-16
 - Jew and Gentile, as Jew and Gentile, are now one in Christ

This equal footing in Christ was a new revelation

- Eph. 3:1-6
- But it was always intended
 - Abrahamic covenant promised blessing to all nations

There were people in the early Church who were confused on this issue

- Some of the Pharisees were saved
- A group of them who joined the Church began teaching circumcision and Jewish customs were necessary for salvation
- When dealing with issues this close to salvation, your margin for error becomes less and less
- Their error would be dealt with and their response lets us know where they TRULY stand

When we speak of a "Judaizer", what do we mean?

- Someone who is forcing you to live like a Jew
- Used only in Gal. 2

The NT has 3 major incidents with the Judaizers

- Acts 11 - Peter criticized by Judaizers for eating with Gentiles
- Galatians 2 - Paul opposed Peter
- Acts 15 - First Church council

Paul's response to the Judaizers had two main points

- Salvation is by grace alone through faith in Christ, not by any works of the Law
 - Eph. 2:8-9
 - Titus 3:4-5
 - Paul was clear on what happens to all who rely on works
 - Gal. 5:2-4
 - His passion was clear
 - Gal. 5:12
- Jews and Gentiles stand on equal footing before God because of Christ
 - The Mosaic Law is not the distinguishing mark of the people of God any more
 - Rom. 3:29-30
 - Rom. 4:16
 - Gal. 3:27-29
 - Eph. 2:11-14
 - You are free to follow certain customs, and you are free not to
 - Neither decision makes you better off
 - Romans 14:1-12
 - Gal. 5:1-6

WHY DOES THIS MATTER TODAY?

1. Faith alone is still attacked
 1. Gal. 2:21
 2. Rom. 10:12-13
2. You still struggle with remembering your works are fruit, not root
3. There are many I have encountered who want to make you obey the Mosaic Law
4. Some have replaced circumcision with baptism
 1. Remember Gal. 5:2