
AMEN Bible Study 2025

Acts: Making Jesus Known

“The Jerusalem Council”

Acts 15
February 6, 2025

Background and Context

Acts 15 records a significant event in the early church...the Jerusalem Council. This council was convened to resolve a dispute concerning whether Gentile converts needed to follow the Mosaic Law, specifically circumcision, to be saved.

- I. We Must Defend the Gospel (vv.1-5)
 - A. Defend the Gospel Quickly (vv.1-4; 24-28)
 - B. Defend the Gospel Boldly (v.2; Gal. 1:9; 2:11; 5:12)
- II. We Must Utilize Faithful Believers (vv.6-22)
 - A. They Gathered (vv.6-11)
 - B. They were Committed to God’s Word and God’s Movement (vv.12-22)
- III. We Must Define the Gospel Clearly (vv.7-22)
 - A. Explain the Gospel Theologically (v.11)
 - B. Demonstrate the Gospel Visibly (vv.12-22)
- IV. We Must Proclaim the Gospel Lovingly (vv. 19-35)
 - A. They were Encouraging (vv.22-25)
 - B. They were Evangelistic (v. 28)
 - C. They were Understanding (v. 29)

AMEN Action Steps

"The Jerusalem Council"

Acts 15

HEAR the Word

"Open my eyes, that I might behold wonderful things out of your law."

-Proverbs 119:18

1. Read Acts 15:1-11. What theological controversy is being discussed?
2. What did the church leaders do to solve this controversy? How did Paul, Peter, and James respond?
3. How can their example of stepping into conflict help us today?

PRACTICE the Word

"...Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

-Matthew 7:24

1. Why is it important to use God's word, especially when addressing controversy?
2. How can we encourage others to study the scriptures with other people as we grow together in God's word?

RETELL the Word

"Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you..."

-Mark 5:19

1. R.C Sproul says, "The ignorance that plagued the Jews in Paul's day, and which plagues every legalist in our own, is not merely a lack of knowledge about the person and work of Christ, but a lack of knowledge of the necessary failure of the zeal." How can we use our knowledge of God to speak the Truth in Love?
2. This week, practice making a gospel presentation for a person who is suffers from legalism.
3. Pray for God to give you an open door to encourage someone with the Gospel of Grace.