

THE GOSPEL OF GOD



Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

1 corinthians 3:16-17

The reports circling back from a successful first journey to the region known as Galatia left the largely Jewish church struggling with the possibility of Gentile believers in the God of Israel. The time period would be around 47 AD. About fifteen years since the resurrection of Jesus and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

At the outset of second missionary journey the team leaves from Antioch. They were anointed, commissioned and sent. Prior to sending the team out the important resolution from the Jerusalem Convention was handed down. The team would have taken this declaration from the apostles and elders of Jerusalem with them on their journey. The shift to include Gentiles into the Jewish expression of the people of God brought a new dimension of clarification.

This letter (see Acts 15:23-29) is most likely the first written piece that would eventually be part of the New Testament canon of Scripture. There is some debate as to which was the first complete letter written in time. It usually comes down to either Galatians or 1 Thessalonians. However this resolution found in Acts 15 is the first Spirit inspired writing of the

New Testament era. It was not until applying the truth written that an increased measure of power came upon church planting efforts by Paul and his team. And with it new measures of opposition in the towns and cities they were about to enter.

It's time to enter the towns and cities of our land and preach what has been written in Acts 15. Open our eyes and ears to see and hear the truth of this Scripture as the idolatries and temples are clearly in front of us.

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