

The Jerusalem Council (And Why It Matters)

Acts 15:1-35

Background and Context

The Jerusalem Council was the _____ and the _____ of all church councils because it answered the question *What is _____?*, or more specifically, *What must a person _____?*

The issue the Jerusalem Council dealt with was not ____ God wanted to save Gentiles, the issue was ____ Gentiles were to be saved. A secondary issue the council dealt with was how to maintain _____ between Jewish and Gentile believers.

The problem: Some Jewish believers (*Judaizers*) believed Gentile believers must first convert to Judaism before becoming a Christian. This ultimately undermines the gospel of grace by adding _____.

The Point of Dissension v. 1-6

The Judaizers did not fully understand _____. Paul addressed this same issue in his letter to the Galatians (See Gal. 1:6-10; 2:15-21; 3, 6).

Peter’s Speech v. 7-11

Peter’s point was simple: the Judaizers had no right to require of the Gentiles what _____ had not required of them. The matter was already divinely settled.

Paul and Barnabas’ Speech v. 12

Paul and Barnabas _____ what Peter said by relating the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles.

James’s Speech v. 13-21

James made it clear that everything happening in Acts was just as the _____. With the major _____ resolved, James turns to practical matters of _____.

The Council’s Proclamation to Gentile Believers v. 22-29

The letter’s conclusions were almost word for word what _____. Paul provided the Romans with a series of principles regarding Christian Liberty in Romans 14:1-15:3.

Principle 1: Christian liberty must never be _____.

Principle 2: As those under grace, we are not to make _____ of others.

Principle 3: Christian liberty ought never to be used in such a way that you become a _____ another Christian.

Principle 4: Christian liberty requires this perspective: We ought not to _____...For even Christ did not please himself.” (Rom. 15:1-3)

Antioch Receives the Letter v. 30-35

The reading of the letter evoked four responses from the assembled believers:

- 1) _____, 2) _____, 3) _____, 4) _____.

Takeaways

The Jerusalem Council should prompt us to: 1) assess our understanding of _____, and 2) acknowledge the inseparable bond between _____ and _____.

There is only one law we’re bound by today, and that’s the _____.

*Dr. Dan Tankersley
Calvary Baptist Church
July 24, 2022*

Calvary Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Lemonade Stand

Sunday, July 24 | 2-5pm | Calvary Parking Lot

The kids from Calvary’s Adoption and Foster Care Ministry are taking a stand this summer for orphans around the world. Our kids will be selling lemonade and baked goods in front of the Children’s Building to raise funds that will go to support Lifeline’s “Stand for Orphans” program.

Please come support this effort and be part of Calvary’s answer to the world’s orphan crises. This will also be a time of fellowship for the ministry and the larger church family. In addition, we will have materials and information to any who may have questions regarding fostering and adoption. Please come by!

Local Missions Opportunity

This opportunity involves our neighborhood schools Girard Elementary and Girard Intermediate. The faculty at these schools are always in need of several items for their classrooms. This upcoming school year we want to bless these teachers by collecting the following four items for their classrooms: paper towels, Kleenex tissue, Clorox wipes, and baby wipes. Items can be dropped off at the ROC or the church office. The deadline to donate is Sunday, August 7. If you have questions, email Tommy Perry at tommy@calvarydothan.com or call the church office. Thank you for your consideration in serving our community in this manner.

Midweek Meal Cook Needed

Calvary is in need of a Midweek Meal cook. If you or someone you know is interested, email Charles Uptain at charles@calvarydothan.com for more information.

Join our Sunday Production Team

The Calvary production team is looking for more servant-minded individuals to help lead Sunday morning worship from the back of house. The production team is responsible for sound, lights, video, screen design, lyrics, livestream, and more! We will have training opportunities for all production team members regardless of experience or skill on July 29-30. If you are interested in more information, please contact Justin (Justin@calvarydothan.com) or Patrick (patrick@calvarydothan.com).

Family Bike Night | Wednesday, August 3 | 6-7:30pm

Preschool and Calvary Kids families, bring your bikes, your scooters, your skateboards, and your family for our “Family Bike Night.” We will block off our parking lot and allow children to safely ride with their friends! Parents must stay. Bring a chair or a blanket and enjoy this fun time of fellowship. We will also have ice cream for you to enjoy!

Life Group Promotion Sunday

All preschool, children and student Life Groups will promote to their new class on August 7.

Dinner with the Pastor

Tuesday, August 9 | 6:15pm | Parlor

Membership Matters

Wednesday, August 17 | 6pm | Parlor

If you are considering membership at Calvary, please join us for Dinner with the Pastor and the Membership Matters class. Contact Angie in the church office or email angie@calvarydothan.com to RSVP for dinner and childcare. Childcare is provided for 6-week-olds through 5th grade.

D-Group Rally

Sunday, August 14 | 5:00 pm | Fellowship Center

Come celebrate what God is doing through D-Groups! This event is for ALL men and women of Calvary. Childcare will be provided for babies through Kindergarten.

In the earliest days of the Christian church, the church was comprised predominately of Jews. In Acts chapter 8 the gospel spread to the Samaritans (who were ethnically mixed Jews-Gentiles), and many Samaritans received Jesus Christ as Savior. In Acts chapter 10, the apostle Peter was the first to take the gospel specifically to the Gentiles, and many received Christ as Savior. In Acts chapters 13-14, Paul and Barnabas had a very fruitful ministry among the Gentiles. All of these Gentiles turning to faith in Christ caused concern among the Jewish believers, first expressed in Acts 11:1–18, and the issues that caused concern were ultimately decided upon at the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15). The issues centered on two questions: Do Gentiles first have to become Jews before they can become Christians? Do Gentiles have to observe the Mosaic Law after they become Christians?

Ultimately, the Jerusalem Council affirmed the doctrine of salvation by grace alone. Gentile converts did not have to legalistically get circumcised or observe the Law of Moses. The Jerusalem Council also gave instructions to Jewish and Gentile believers on how to maintain fellowship. Thus, Satan’s attempt to distort the gospel and to split the church along racial and cultural lines was overcome and the Early Church survived the greatest challenge it had yet faced. With the gospel preserved and fellowship maintained, the church experienced greater days of ministry than ever before.

The Jerusalem Council should prompt believers today to: 1) assess their understanding of the gospel, and 2) acknowledge the inseparable bond between right theology and Christian fellowship. Dr. Al Mohler noted, “Doctrine and theology, when aimed at ushering believers’ hearts into greater worship of God, will not harden a congregation; rather, it will strengthen and encourage the faith of the body. Sound teaching of right theology fosters Christ-exalting fellowship.”

- Dan Tankersley

Evangelism Training with Randy Pope

Friday, August 12 | 6-8:30pm

Saturday, August 13 | 8:30am-Noon

Location: First Presbyterian Church in Dothan

This training is ideal for anyone who has a desire to share the gospel but doesn’t know where to start. \$25/person covers all materials, dessert and coffee Friday night and continental breakfast Saturday morning. Call the First Presbyterian church office to sign up for childcare (334.794.3128). Register online at: https://ministryplatform.perimeter.org/portal/event_detail.aspx?id=76715

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

My Decision Today:

- I trusted Jesus as Savior.
- I’d like to join Calvary Baptist Church.
- I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.
- Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pastors & Prayer Team Only
- Churchwide

Connect Card

July 24, 2022

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

- Please update my information
- Please contact me about membership

I am a:

- First Time Guest
- Attender
- Member

Name

Address

City

State/Zip

Male Female

Married Single

Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

July 24, 2022



I'm New Here

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code.

How to Become a Christian

Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to calvarydothan.com/become-a-christian/.

If you would like to view a pdf of today's sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/podcast or use Calvary's Church by MinistryOne app.

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901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday 334.793.9898

FIRST TIME GUEST?

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church. Please fill out the Connect Card to the left and place it in one of the offering plates when they are passed. Be sure to stop by our Next Steps kiosk after the service for a gift from us!

THE PEOPLE CAME...

July 17

Life Groups: 407
10:00 Worship: 605
Hispanic Church: 112
Grace City Church (NY): 30

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund

Given July 17: \$51,059.80
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): \$34,765.07

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, July 24:

Dt 10, Ps 94, Is 38, Rev 8

Monday, July 25:

Dt 11, Ps 95-96, Is 39, Rev 9

Tuesday, July 26:

Dt 12, Ps 97-98, Is 40, Rev 10

Wednesday, July 27:

Dt 6, Ps 89, Is 34, Rev 4

Thursday, July 28:

Dt 7, Ps 90, Is 35, Rev 5

Friday, July 29:

Dt 8, Ps 91, Is 36, Rev 6

Saturday, July 30:

Dt 9, Ps 92-93, Is 37, Rev 7

Midweek Schedule

No Midweek July 6-August 3.

Midweek will resume August 10.

5:30pm Midweek Meal, Fellowship Center

6:00pm Midweek Worship, Sanctuary
Preschool, Birth-K5, Preschool Building
Children, Grades 1-5, ROC
Students, Grades 6-12, Student Room

4 Ways to Give

- Give online by going to calvarydothan.com/give-online/.
- On Sundays, drop in the offering plate or in the collection boxes near the Fellowship Center exit doors
- Mail to 901 Montezuma Avenue, Dothan, AL 36303
- Bring to the church office, M-F, 8am-12noon & 1-4:30pm

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson.....Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain.....Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley.....Discipleship
Patrick Lima.....Worship
Tommy Perry.....Community

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, July 24:

Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765

Saturday, July 30:

Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

Sunday, July 31:

Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

SERMON SCHEDULE

No Midweek Service July 6-August 3

Sunday, July 31 | 10am

Acts: Division and the Purposes of God

Acts: 15:36-16:15

Message by Dan Tankersley

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Call to Prayer, Sanctuary

8:30am Life Group

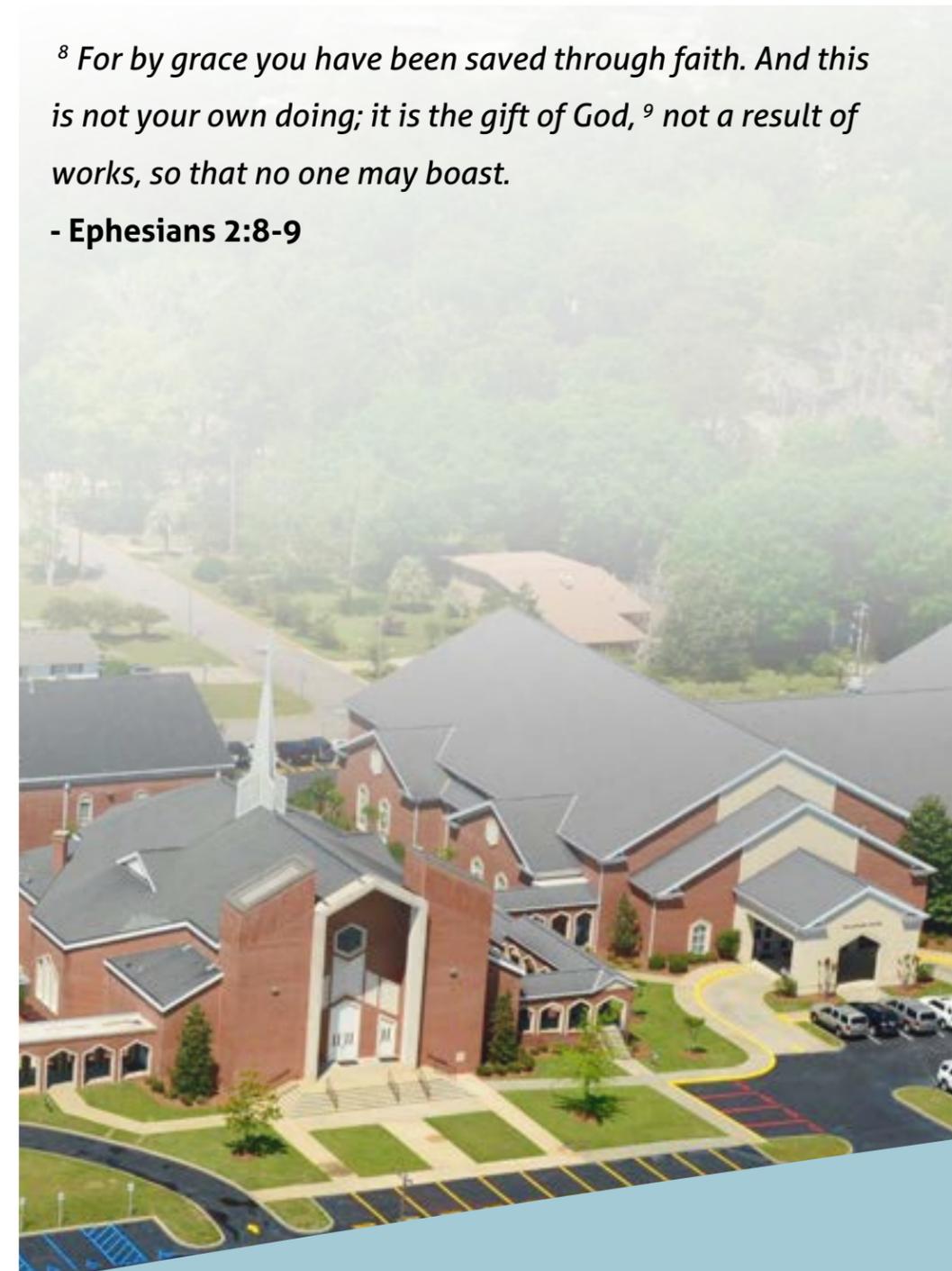
10:00am Worship, Fellowship Center
Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5,
Chapel (except 1st Sunday)

No Kids Worship in July

11:00am Worship Broadcast on JoyFM
94.3/96.1 with a 1 wk delay.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- Ephesians 2:8-9



WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH