

Pharisaic claim v. 5
Peter's speech 7-11
Barnabas and Saul 12
James report 13-21
Text of decision and letter
23-29

The letter repudiated Judaism as a life force and gave support to Paul and Barnabas. They were accompanied by delegates Judas and Silas and certain essential regulations were appended. The results were to be published in Antioch, Syria, Cilicia and in the cities of the first missionary journey.

(3) Of special interest:

- (a) the Paul and Peter controversy
- (b) the judgment on the Judaizers
- (c) the fruit of the Spirit and the walk that should characterize those who are the Lord's.
- (d) the care that should be extended to the total community.
- (e) Paul's use of the Old Testament

c. Summary notes:

The great burden is to accept and stand in the liberty in which Christ has made us free. It is not a lawlessness but a state of complete dependence upon and subservience to the Lord Himself. It is the only life that can support honest "boasting" (rejoicing) and is granted freely. It is obvious that without proper care one can be bound up in the former bondage rather easily. So the Apostle urges watchfulness and care that this does not happen.

5. Ephesians and Colossians

(We are treating them as one unit due to their Christological similarity and parallel development.)

a. An overview:

Ephesians may have been quoted as early as AD 95 and was definitely referred to Paul by the end of the second century. Since 1798, however, this view of its authorship has been under attack.