Galatians 2:11-21

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.¹² For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles: but when they came. he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision. 13 And the rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, "If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how is it that you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews? 15 "We are Jews by nature, and not sinners from among the Gentiles;¹⁶ nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus. even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified. 17 "But if, while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have also been found sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? May it never be! 18 "For if I rebuild what I have once destroyed, I prove myself to be a transgressor.¹⁹ "For through the Law I died to the Law, that I might live to God.²⁰ "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.²¹ "I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Galatians Study Questions

- 1. According to the text, why did Paul oppose Cephas (Peter) to the face?
- 2. What had Peter been in the practice of doing before the coming of certain men from James?
- 3. What does the text specifically say was Peter's reason for discontinuing the above practice?
- 4. How did Peter's actions influence those around him?
- 5. What sin does Paul specifically state Peter was guilty of committing?
- 6. What does Paul say Peter and these other individuals were not being straightforward about?
- 7. What guestion did Paul ask Peter in the "presence of all"?
- 8. Wouldn't it have been better for Paul to confront Peter privately? Be prepared to discuss your answer in class.
- 9. By what is a man NOT justified? By what is he justified?
- 10. What did Paul do "through the Law" that he "might live to God"? What might this mean?
- 11. What was the result of Paul being "crucified with Christ"?
- 12. If righteousness comes through the Law, what is the result? Why would this be the case?