

Series: Acts the Blueprint for Church Health
Message: Grace Alone
Text: Acts 15:1-19 (10/21/07 AM)

The fledgling church had survived *problems* from within (Ch 6); *persecution* from without (Ch 9 & 10) and *perversion* from without (Ch 13). Now the infant church faced an unlikely enemy – *perversion* from within. How would the *mother* church in Jerusalem and the *mission* church at Antioch reconcile the faith of *Jewish and Gentile believers*? Is salvation found in *Grace plus... or Grace alone?*

I. The Sinner's Tendency (1-5)

Man attempts to shackle God's Grace with works of the flesh.

- Grace saves anyone (3a)
- Grace always amazes (3b & 12)
- Grace needs no addition (1 & 5)

II. The Savior's Triumph (6-12)

Faith alone unleashes God's Grace.

- The Gospel convicts (7a)
- The sinner confesses (7b)
- The Spirit confirms (8-9)
- The Grace of God converts (10-12)

III. The Saint's Task (13-29; focal 19)

Keep the gateway to Grace uncluttered.

"We should not trouble those... who are turning to God." (19)

G – God's R – riches A – at C – Christ's E – Expense!

- Grace for our Salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- Grace for our Sanctification (Romans 12:2 & 6:11-14)
- Grace for our Service (1 Peter 4:10)
- Grace for our Storms (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)

Application to our life: Have you been trusting in anything other than God's Grace for *Salvation? Maturation? Service? Struggles?* If you will come in faith the Father will *save you, sanctify you, enable you and sustain you!* Come to the Father in faith today and rest in His Grace forever.