

“BACK TO THE FUNDAMENTALS”

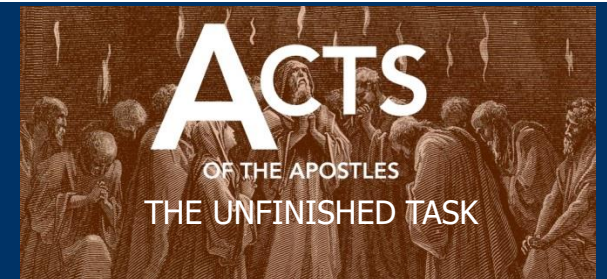
(Acts 15:13-35)

Expository Sermon of Acts - Sermon 34

Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam

Date: January 5, 2020

Place: Hope Community Baptist Church



INTRODUCTION:



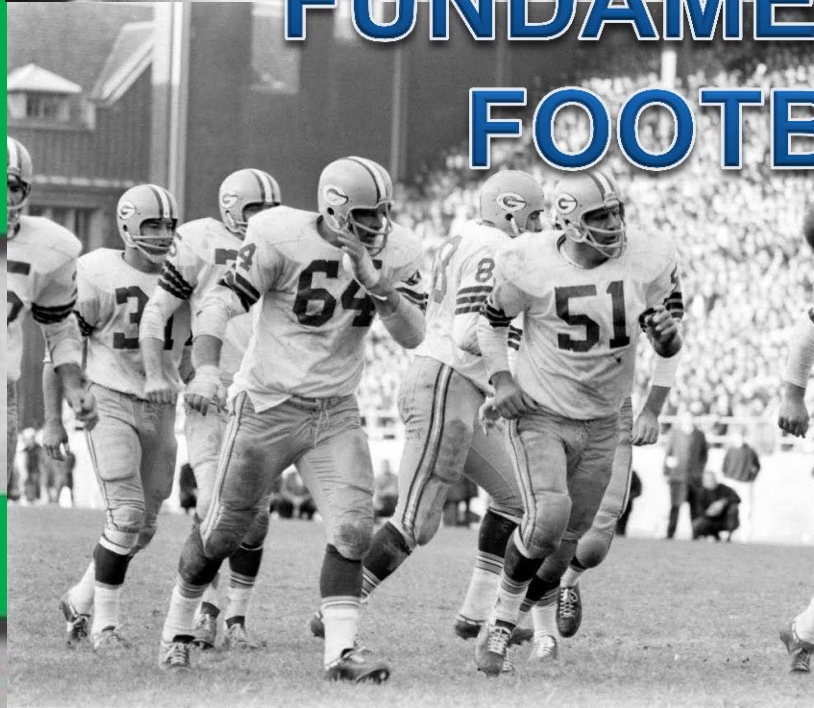
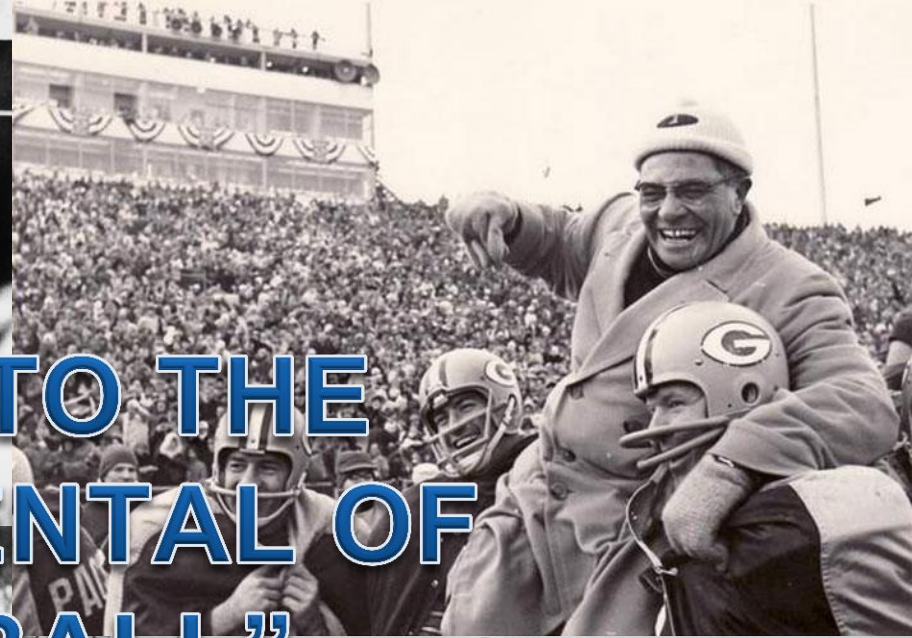
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A Life

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“BACK TO THE
FUNDAMENTAL OF
FOOTBALL”



INTRODUCTION:

“THE FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINE OF SALVATION”



I. A REVIEW OF THE DISAGREEMENT

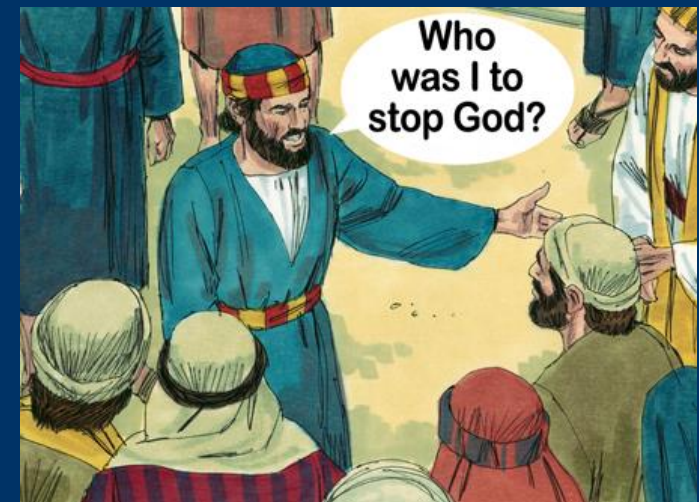
A) *Salvation by Law*

Acts 15:5b *The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses.*



B) *Salvation by Grace*

Acts 15:11 *No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.*

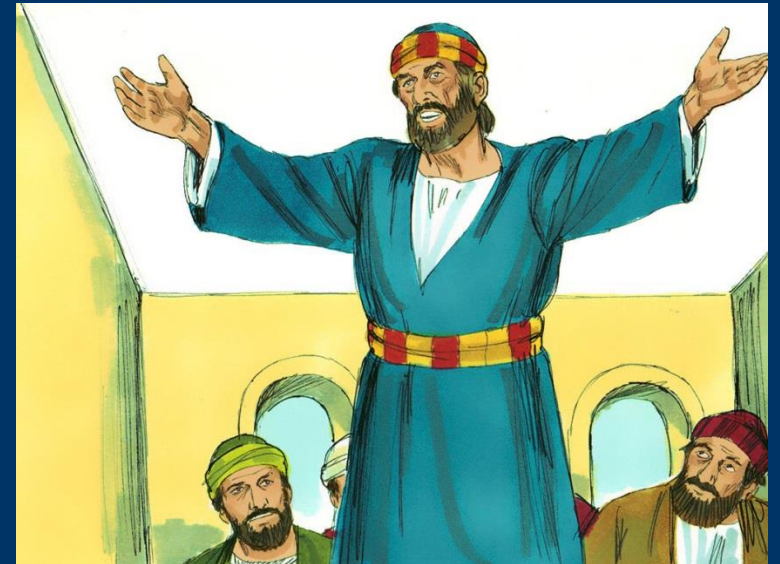


II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

A) An Oral Decision

1) God is doing this, not man.

***Acts 15:14** Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles.*



II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

A) An Oral Decision

2) The Word of God is being fulfilled, not contradicted.

Acts 15:15 *The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written:*

16 *"After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it, ***17*** that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who bear my name, says the Lord, who does these things' — ***18*** things known from long ago.*

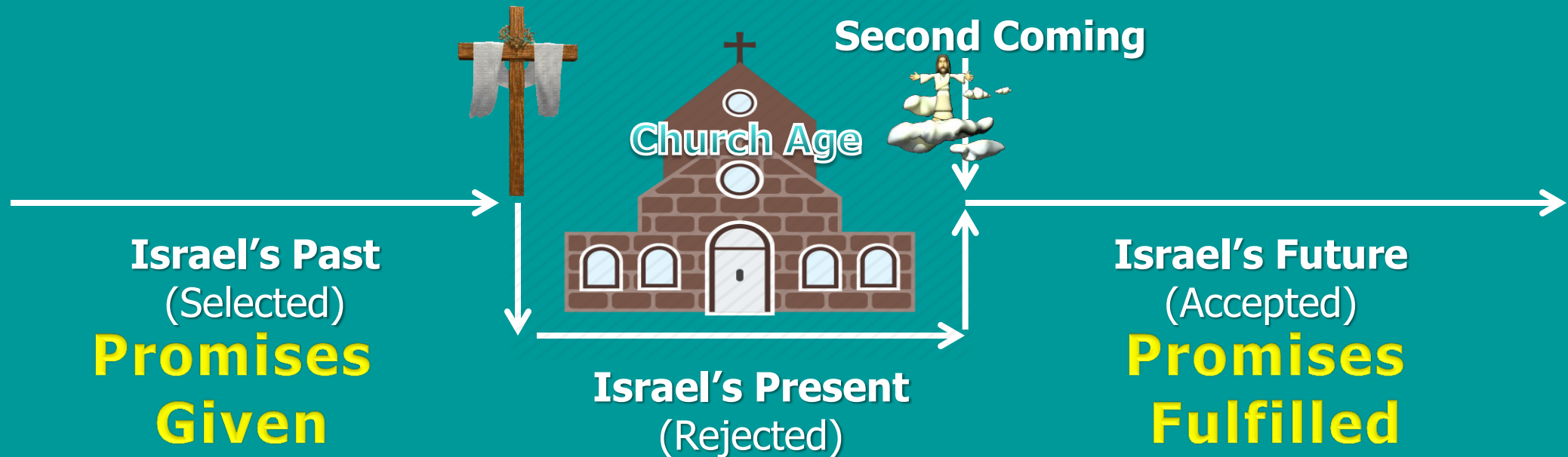


II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

A) An Oral Decision

*2) The Word of God is being fulfilled,
not contradicted.*

Israel in Relation to the Church Age

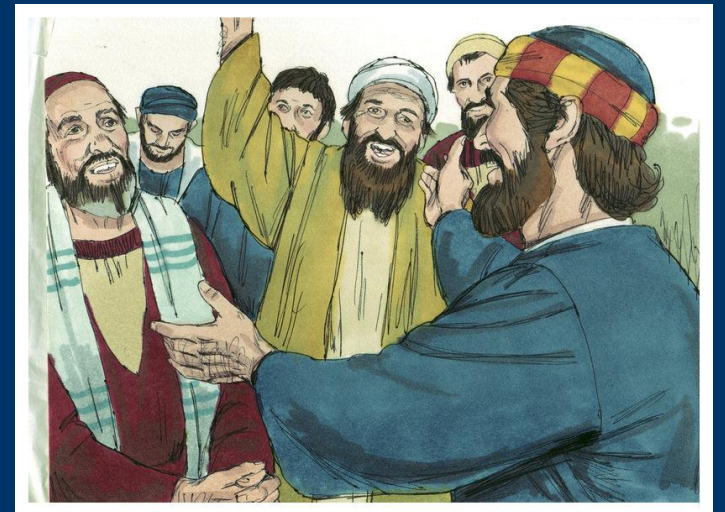


II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

A) An Oral Decision

3) The basis of salvation is grace, not law.

Acts 15:19 *"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.*

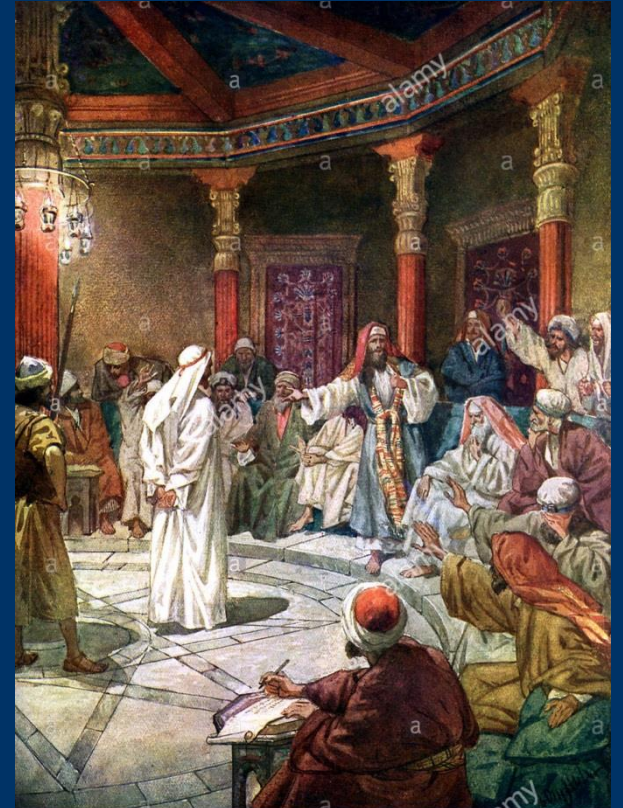


II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

A) *An Oral Decision*

4) A lifestyle of obedience and love must follow salvation, not license.

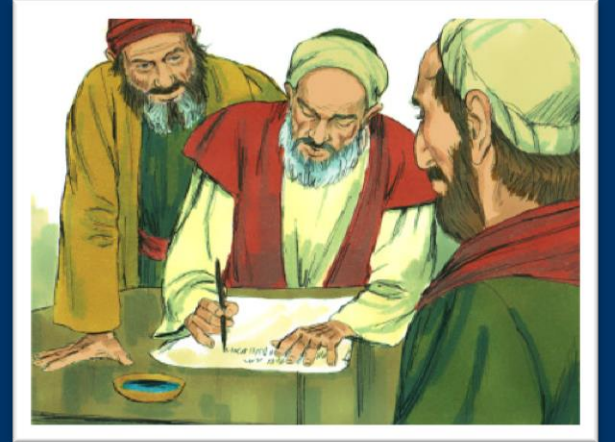
Acts 15:20 *Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood.*
21 *For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath."*



II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

B) A Written Statement

***Acts 15:23b** The apostles and elders, your brothers, To the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia: Greetings.*

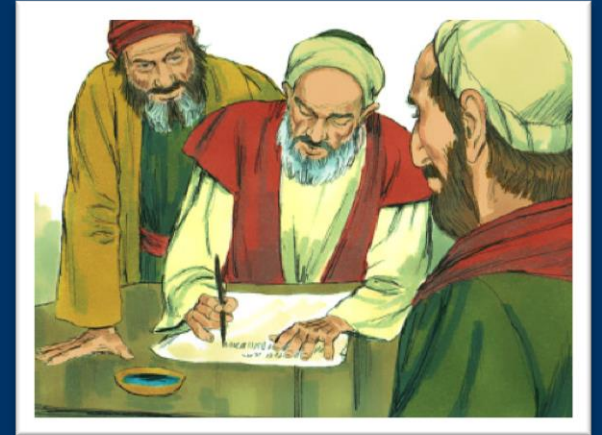


***24** We have heard that some went out from us without our authorization and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said. **25** So we all agreed to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul— **26** men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

B) A Written Statement

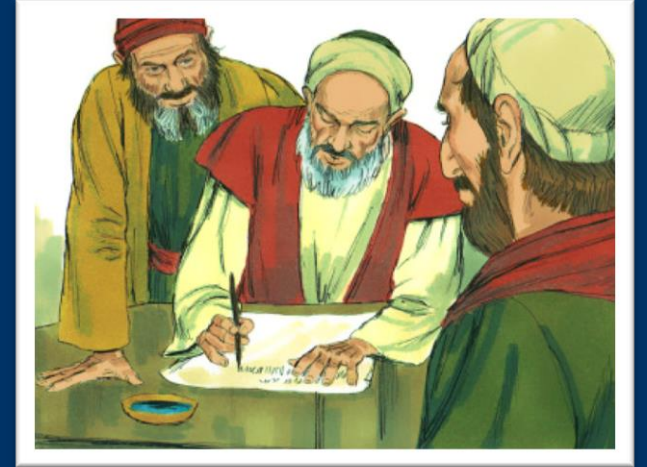
***Acts 15:27** Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas to confirm by word of mouth what we are writing. **28** It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: **29** You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things. Farewell.*



II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

B) A Written Statement

1) Restricting one's liberty is a burden.



2) Restrictions are essential.



II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

C) A Public Announcement

Acts 15:30b ...where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. **31** The people read it and were glad for its encouraging message. **32** Judas and Silas, who themselves were prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers.



II. A SOLUTION TO THE DISAGREEMENT

C) A Public Announcement

Acts 15:33 *After spending some time there, they were sent off by the believers with the blessing of peace to return to those who had sent them. [34] 35 But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, where they and many others taught and preached the word of the Lord.*



CONCLUSION:



So far we can hear three voices of truth echoing through the council chambers.

A. *Legalism results in an emphasis on works, and the impact is guilt*



B. *License results in an emphasis on self, and the impact is offense.*



C. *Grace results in an emphasis on Christ, and the impact is love.*





CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Why is fundamental skill so crucial for a person's achievement and success?*
- 2. What was the Jewish Christians requirement for Gentile to be saved? What was Peter's conclusion of salvation for the Gentile and the Jew?*
- 3. What are the four strands of thought, he wove a wise doctrinal pattern for the church to follow?*
- 4. What was the intention of the written statement from the council to all the churches?*
- 5. How does the public announcement of the letter from the Jerusalem council help the churches confront the Legalism?*



Scripture References:

Acts 15:13-35