

Confronting False Doctrine  
Galatians 2:11-21

Central Idea: Confrontation is hard, but often necessary.

Introduction: This passage deals with Paul's rebuke of Peter. It is interesting to note that Paul builds the entire rebuke on doctrine. There were five basic Christian doctrines that were being denied by Peter because of his separation from the Gentiles.

1. The unity of the church (v. 14).
2. Justification by faith (vv. 15, 16).
3. Freedom from the law (vv. 17, 18).
4. The very gospel itself (vv. 19, 20).
5. The grace of God (v. 21).

Conclusion: The gospel is like a pure stream. Those who drink from it receive eternal life; but when people add requirements to salvation that are unnecessary, the stream gets dirty. The false teachers of Galatia were polluting the gospel by requiring the Christians to obey Jewish law, especially circumcision in addition to believing in Christ.