

Gospel Unity Galatians 2:1-10

The apostle Paul entered heaven to the cheers of those he martyred. That's how the gospel works.

-Anonymous

I. The Players

II. The Problem

III. The Partnership

Into the Bible

The Gospels often present the Apostles in a less than flattering light. It has been pointed out that this tends to support the truthfulness of the accounts. These are not whitewashed hero stories but honest accounts of men with issues. How do this passage and the record of the Jerusalem council in Acts 15 continue that emphasis?

Why is Paul so willing to “go to the mat” over this issue of enforcing circumcision? It seems an odd thing to make such a fuss over and oppose so forcefully.

Application

From the descriptions we have in Galatians and the companion passage in Acts 15, despite strong conflict over serious theological disagreements, how did Paul and the other leaders manage to maintain Christian unity in ministry? What lessons can we learn from this? (Philippians 2:1-3, Luke 17:3, 1 Peter 4:8)

For Families

Talk with your children about the why we don't need to follow the Old Testament practices of sacrifice and diet.