

Gospel Conflict **Galatians 2:11-21**

The problem with the hypocrite is his motivation. He does not want to be holy; he only wants to seem to be holy. He is more concerned with his reputation for righteousness than about actually becoming righteous.

-Augustine

I. The Conflict

II. The Correction

Into the Bible

Since the Law of Moses could not bring anyone to true salvation some of Paul's readers must have wondered why God chose to implement it on the nation of Israel in the first place. In Romans 7:7-10, Paul argues that the Law sets the impossible but necessary standard of perfection God requires of us. What releases us from the need to keep the Law and necessarily fail at doing so? (Romans 7:4-6)

Reading Acts 10, why is Peter's failure mentioned here in Galatians so shocking that it drew Paul's open rebuke?

Application

In Luke 12:1, Jesus warns his disciples about the “leaven of the Pharisees”—something that easily spreads its influence into the whole sample of dough from a small piece. He then identifies this as their hypocrisy. Matthew 23 lists multiple examples of what Christ condemns in the actions and attitudes of the Pharisees. Are some of these still practiced in the Church today in culturally updated forms? If so, which ones? How can we avoid the sin of hypocrisy in our own lives?

For Families

Talk with your children about the need to “walk the walk” and not just “talk the talk”.