

HANDLING DISPUTES IN THE LOCAL CHURCH
Acts 15:1-35

I. THE DISPUTE [15:1-5]

A. FALSE JEWISH LEGALISTIC TEACHERS FROM JERUSALEM

[15:5,24; Gal.2:1-10;5:1; 6:7; 21:20-26]

B. A TIME OF TRANSITION [Lk.5:36-39; Lk.23:45; Heb.10:19-25; Eph.2:14-16; Acts 15:10; Gal.5:1; Col.2:16-17; Heb.10:1; Heb.10:1-18]

C. “ANATHEMA” TO ANYONE WHO PREACHES ANOTHER GOSPEL [Gal.1:1-9]

D. THE NATURE OF CHURCH MISSIONARY PROGRAM [Acts 15:2,7; 15:24]

II. THE DEFENSE [15:6-18]

A. PETER CONTENDED FOR SALVATION THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS

[15:6-11; Prov.18:13; Acts 15:7; Matt.16:19; Acts 15:8; Rom.8:9; Acts 10:43-46; Gal.6:2]

B. PAUL AND BARNABAS ATTESTED TO GOD’S WORKING AMONG THE GENTILES

[15:12, 25-26; Mk.16:20; Acts 15:4; Rom.15:18-19; Gal.3:5; Acts 13:8,12,39,41,48]

C. JAMES CONCLUDED DISPUTES WITH FAVORABLE PROPOSAL

[15:13-18; Matt.13:55; 1 Cor.15:7; Acts 1:14; Isa.2:2; 11:20; Gal.3:28; Amos 9:8-15 Rom.11:11-16]

III. THE DECISION [15:19-35]

A. SPIRIT FILLED LEADERSHIP MADE A TWO-FOLD DECISION

[Acts 15:22,28; Gal.1:6-12; Rom.11:1]

B. CHURCH PROBLEM RESTORED BY BIBLE PRECEPTS

[1 Cor.8-10; 1 Cor.11:17-34; Rom.14-15; Gen 9:4; Lev. 17:11-14; Deut. 12:23]

C. RESOLUTION TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS

[Jude 3; Acts 15:11; Rom.14:13-21; Acts 15:30-31; Acts 16:5; Jn.17:20-21]