The Gospel Refined

Acts 15:1-35

PART THREE

Introduction

The Jerusalem Council

The five stages to this event:

I. The Dissension (vv1-5); II. The Debate (vv6-12); III. The Decision (vv13-21); IV. The Delegation (vv22-29); V. The Delivery (vv30-35)

III. The Decision – vv13-21

v12

"signs and wonders God had done"

Hebrews 2:3-4

v13

v14

"James" the leader of the Jerusalem church and half-brother to Jesus.

"God first visited the Gentiles" God initiates the work of salvation for His glory and the good of the nations.

"take from them a people for his name" God's sovereign choice among the Gentiles for salvation.

God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to save a people for his name.

"a people" Gk laos; 'a number of people joined together'

Zechariah 2:11

"daughter of Zion" or, 'the Church of the Lord'

John 1:14

2 Corinthians 6:16

Isaiah 56:3

Abraham: The father of the faith of many nations

Genesis 17:3-7

Genesis 17:11

Romans 4:9-12; 16-17 Romans 9:3-8; 27, 30-32; 11:5-7 Galatians 3:7-9 Jesus Messiah, the fulfillment of the Law of Moses, OT prophecy, and Mediator of the New Covenant: Jeremiah 31:31-34 "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise." Galatians 3:29 Galatians 6:14-16 1 Peter 2:9-10 v15 "just as it is written" v16 v17 v18 James supports Peter's assertions by citing Amos 9:11-12. "tent/hut" "rebuild" (Amos 9:11) "as in the days of old" point back to the promise in 2 Samuel 7:11, 12, 16. 2 Samuel 7:11-14a 2 Samuel 7:16-17 Psalm 2:6-8 The resurrection and exaltation/coronation of Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of God's promises to king David have already been established in Acts (Peter, 2:25-36; Paul, 13:23, 32-37). Acts 13:32-34 Luke 1:31-33 Luke 1:67-70 Luke 2:29-32 Isaiah 56:6-8 The prophecy of Zechariah 2:11 finishes when King Jesus returns in glory:

Revelation 21:3-4

Not all Israelites will be saved, but only those saved by God's grace through faith alone in Jesus Messiah.