

Standing for Truth

Galatians 2:11-14

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Nike's: *"Believe in something even if it means sacrificing everything."*
- Importance of standing for truth, even if one stands alone!
- Paul's defense of his mission and message to false teachers
 - Galatians 1—Paul's independence: source of apostleship and message.
 - Galatians 2—Paul as equal partner with the other apostles

Standing for Truth

A. The Case: Peter's visit to Antioch—2:11

1. Takes place prior to the Jerusalem council of Acts 15
2. Acts 12:17, 19—Peter leaves town after imprisonment

B. The Cause: Peter's hypocrisy—2:12-14

1. Peter knew and acted better!
 - a. Taught by Christ and by vision that there is no distinction between Jewish and Gentile believers. Mark 6; Acts 10
 - b. Was eating with and living like a Gentile in Antioch—v. 12, 14
2. The delegation from James! Who were they?
3. Peter caves in to pressure from Jerusalem group! He compromises!
 - a. His compromise was motivated by the fear of people! 2:12
 - b. His compromise was gradual. Was a process over time. 2:12
 - c. His compromise was catchy—2:13

C. The Confrontation: Paul stands up to Peter!

1. Confrontation is PERSONAL—"face to face"—2:11
2. Confrontation is PUBLIC—"before all"—2:14
 - a. Normal procedure for confrontation—Matthew 18
 - b. Special procedure for leadership—1 Tim. 5:19-21
 - 1) Charges must be substantiated.
 - 2) Rebuke to be done before all as deterrent.
 - 3) Must be done impartially

D. The Consequences: What is at stake?

1. The very truth of the gospel!
2. The unity of the church!—Ephesians 2:14-16
3. The future usefulness of Peter—Acts 15:7-11