

1 CORINTHIANS

The Gospel
in Community

WHEN FAITH AND LIFE COLLIDE

Study 11

THE GOSPEL AND OUR RIGHTS

I Corinthians 9

TEMPLE CULTIC MEAL

MEAT SOLD IN MARKET PLACE



THE GOSPEL AND AN IDOLATROUS CULTURE



1 Cor 8 :1 Now concerning food offered to idols:

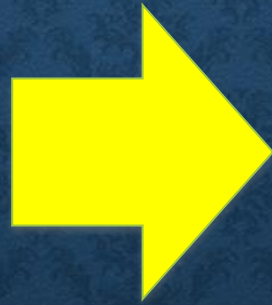
Chapter 8
Loving knowledge
Don't stumble weaker

Chapter 9
True Liberty
Defense of Apostolic authority
Sacrificing rights for sake of gospel

Chapter 10
Dealing with temptation
Reject idolatry- Do not partake of food offered to idols

CHRISTIAN ALTERNATIVE

Knowledge



Love

STRONG

Knowledge

WEAK



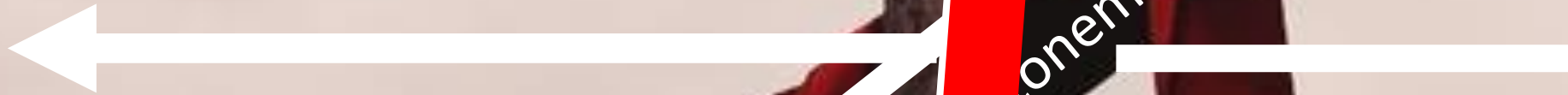
Feel great



Feels guilty

THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.

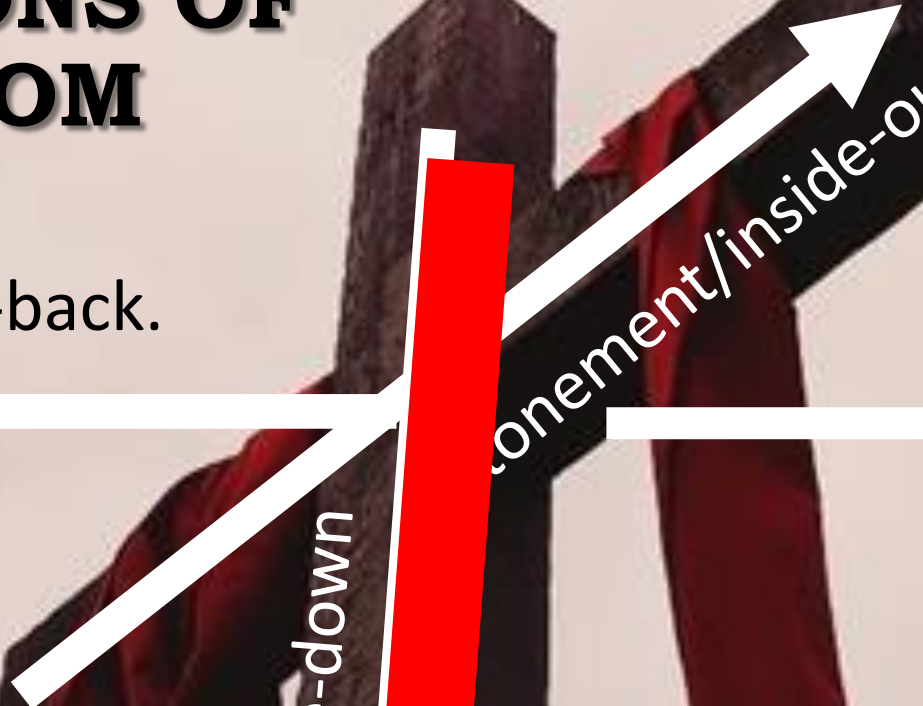


Sacrifice the right to eat meat for the sake of Love

Incarnation/upside-down



Conement/inside-out







A woman with dark hair, wearing a pink cardigan over a white top and a red and white beaded necklace, is speaking into a microphone at a podium. She is holding a white document. The background is a dark, textured curtain.

Pastors Koh
Against criminal action of
fundamentalist groups

A photograph of a destroyed city street, likely in Gaza. The street is filled with rubble, including bricks, concrete, and twisted metal. The buildings on either side are heavily damaged, with many windows missing and walls crumbling. In the background, a plume of dark smoke rises into the sky, and a bright light source, possibly the sun, is visible through the gap in the buildings. The overall scene is one of devastation and destruction.

Israel right to
self defence
Gazan's right
to life

CURTAILING OUR RIGHTS FOR LOVE

1 Corinthians 8:13 (ESV) Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.



Of course ... Yes

YET MISUNDERSTOOD

1 Corinthians 9:1-2 (ESV)

Am I not free?

Am I not an apostle?

Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?

PRIME EXAMPLE IS PAUL



YET MISUNDERSTOOD

Of course ... Yes

Are not you my workmanship in the Lord?

2 If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

PRIME EXAMPLE IS PAUL



MISUNDERSTOOD BECAUSE GAVE UP THIS RIGHTS

Demeanor weak compared to
sophisticated speakers

Failure to accept material support



PAUL'S DEFENCE

1 Corinthians 9:3 (ESV) 3 This is my defense to those who would examine me.

PRIME EXAMPLE IS PAUL

ANOTHER SERIES OF RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

Paul has legitimately rights

1 Corinthians 9:4-6 (ESV)

Do we not have the right to eat and drink?

5 Do we not have the right to take along a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? 1 Corinthians 6 Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living?

3 METAPHORS

Who serves as a soldier
at his own expense?



Who plants a vineyard without
eating any of its fruit?



Or who tends a flock
without getting some of the
milk?



**Proof of legitimately rights
Common wisdom**



1 Corinthians 9:8-10 (ESV) Do I say these things on human authority? Does not the Law say the same? 9 For it is written in the Law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain.” (Deut 25:4) Is it for oxen that God is concerned? 10 Does he not certainly speak for our sake?

1 Timothy 5:18 (ESV) For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer deserves his wages.”

EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTES HAS A LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO A SHARE

1 Corinthians 9:10-12 (ESV) It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop. 11 If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? 12 If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more?

PAUL HAS INSTEAD SACRIFICED HIS RIGHTS

It is not because he is weak or is undeserving but instead because he is strong and has sacrificed his rights for the love of others

1 Corinthians 9:12 (ESV) If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more?

Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

THE CONCLUSION

1 Corinthians 9:13-14 (ESV) Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings?

14 In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.

PAUL GAVE UP HIS RIGHTS

1 Corinthians 9:15 (ESV) But I have made no use of any of these rights, nor am I writing these things to secure any such provision. For I would rather die than have anyone deprive me of my ground for boasting.

GOSPEL FREEDOM

1 Corinthians 9:19 (ESV) For though I am free from all,
I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win
more of them.

THE LAYERS THAT PAUL IS UNDER

Paul does not live for the
glory of men but for God

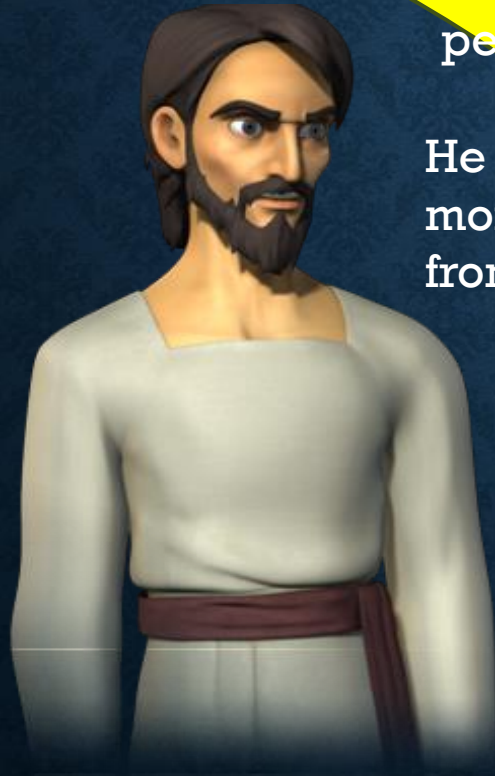
Jesus fulfilled all the Mosaic
Law for Paul and paid the
penalty of his sin

He never took any
money or patronage
from them

Obligations to men from
accepting financial support
for his ministry

Opinions and
expectations of
men and society
**FREEDOM IN
CHRIST**

Cultural, religious
expectations of
Jews



GOSPEL FREEDOM PARADOX

1 Corinthians 9:19 (ESV) For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.

1 Corinthians 9:20-21 (ESV) To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law.

VOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS



Jew



Jew- Nationality

Mosaic Law –religious

Motive: in order to win Jews

Gentile



Gentile- Non Jew

No Mosaic Law –religious

Motive: in order to win Gentiles

Does not mean act
immorally

PAUL'S EXAMPLE

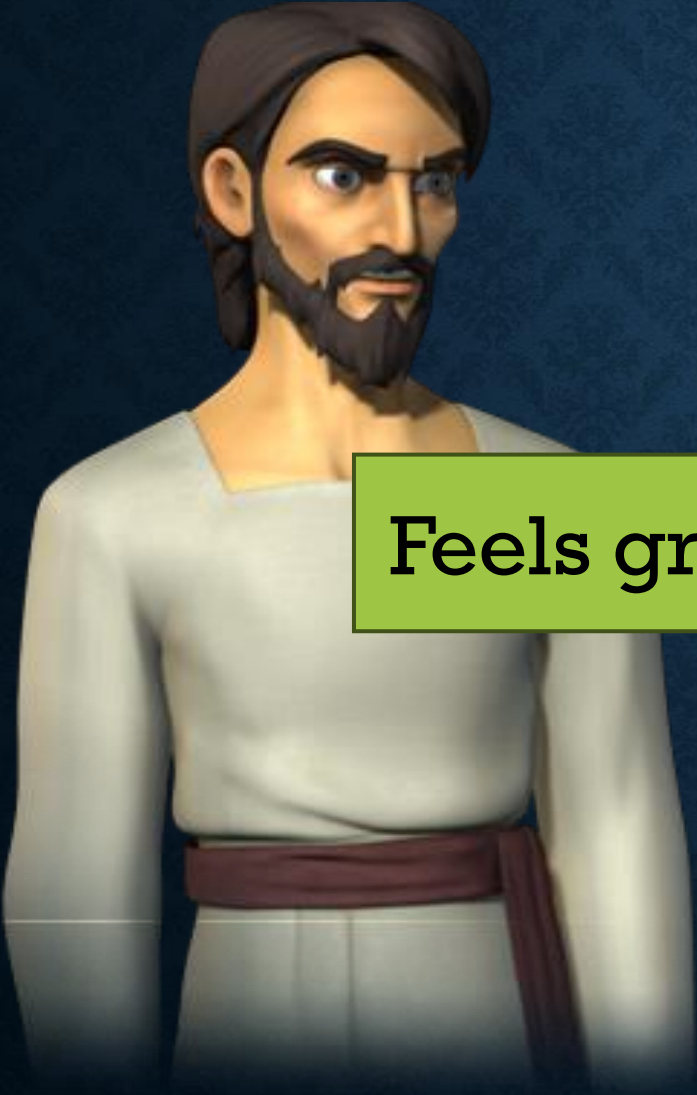


1 Corinthians 9:22-23 (ESV) To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

STRONG

Knowledge

WEAK



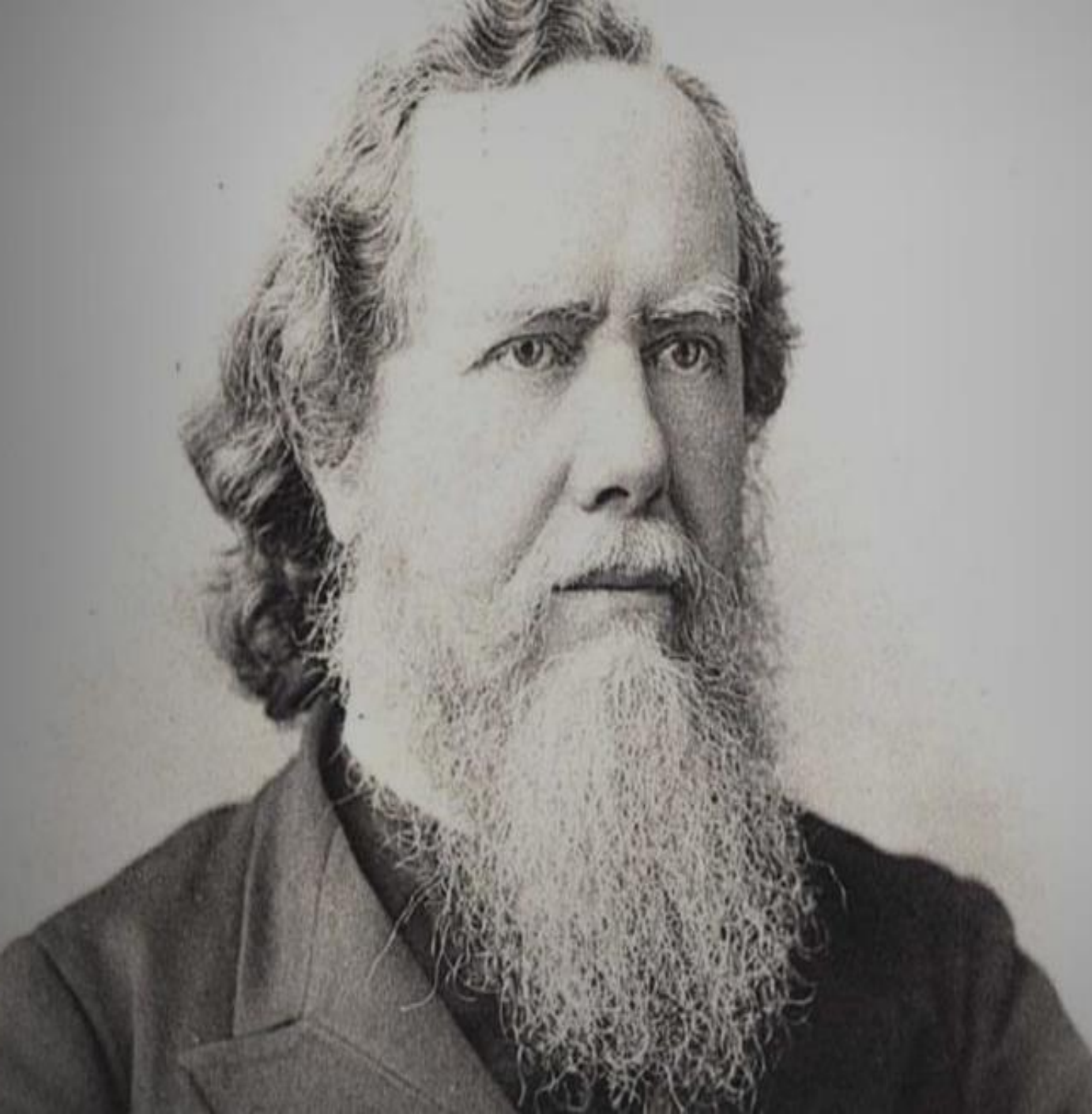
Feels great



Feels Condemned







ENCULTURATION

John 1:14 (ESV) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Philippians 2:5-8 (ESV) Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, **Jesus sacrificed his rights** God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

BALANCE TO ENCULTURATION

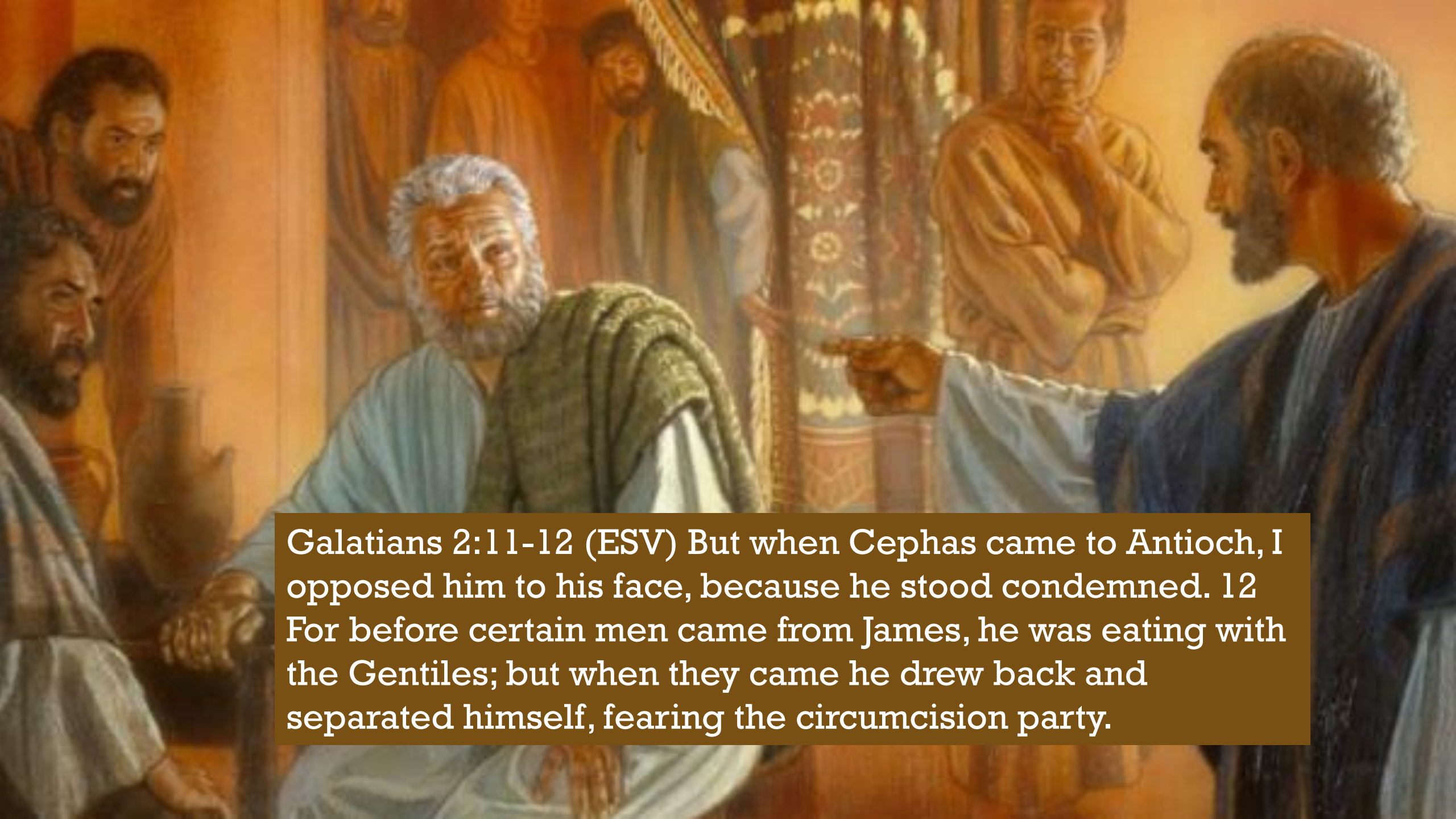
1 Corinthians 9:22-23 (ESV) To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

BALANCE

Biblical Truth

Being all
things to all
men





Galatians 2:11-12 (ESV) But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.

ACTS 15 COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM DEALT WITH THIS PROBLEM

Acts 15:5 (ESV) But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.”

Do Non Jewish Christians have to become Jews or follow Mosaic ceremonial law

ACTS 15 COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM JEW AND GENTILE EQUAL

Acts 15:28 **No need they are equal** good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: 29 that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”

WAS PETER FOLLOWING PAUL IN 1 COR 9?



Jew



Jew- Nationality
Mosaic Law –religious obligations-food restrictions

Motive: Fear

Gentile



Discriminates against Gentiles...alienation

Motive: in order to win Gentiles

NO MOSAIC LAW –religious obligations
NO FOOD RESTRICTIONS

Galatians 2:14-15 (ESV) But when their conduct did not match the truth of the gospel, conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

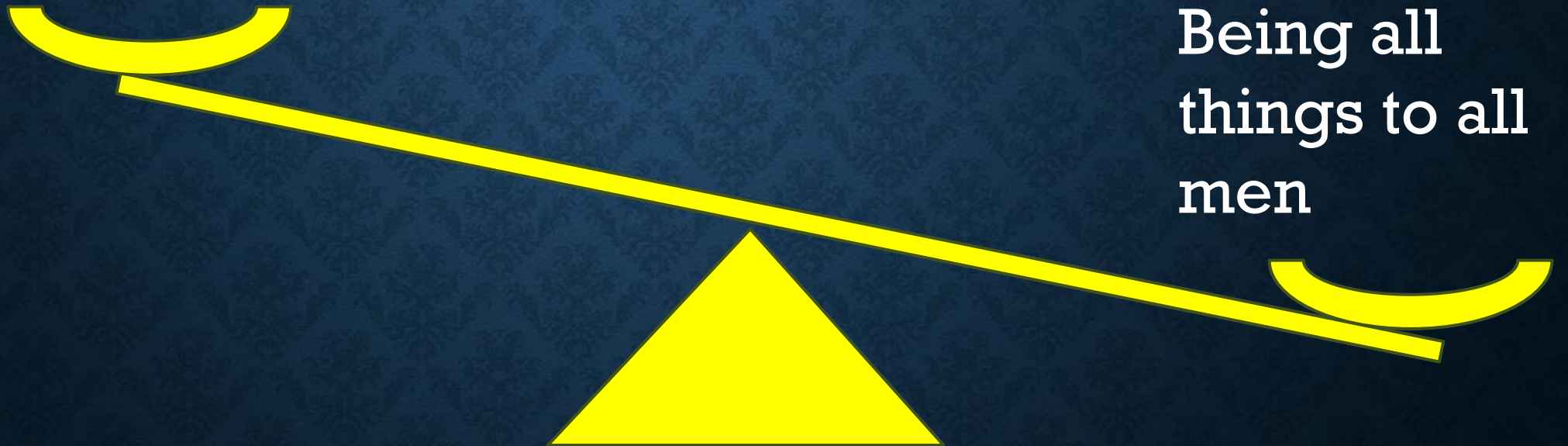
Justified by Faith

BALANCE

Biblical Truth

Being like a Jew only
diminishes the place of
Gentiles

Being all
things to all
men



PETER STUMBLED JEWISH CHRISTIANS

Galatians 2:13 And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel,.





Suresh Gnanasekaran



"I don't intend to confuse or insult anyone. I'm just trying to make a living."

Malaysia's First Pork Nasi
Kandar 🍷🐷



"It's an insult to the Nasi Kandar industry & will paint the food in a bad light."

Look at that pork varuval





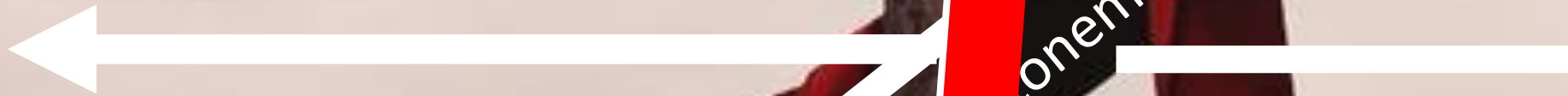
IF SURESH WAS A CHRISTIAN WHAT SHOULD HE HAVE DONE

**Relinquish his rights in
love and close shop ?**

**Continue his shop for the
sake of the rights of Non
Muslims**

THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.



1 Corinthians 9:23
(ESV) I do it all for
the sake of the
gospel, that I may
share with them in its
blessings.



Incarnation/upside-down

Conement/inside-out

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (ESV) Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

PAUL IS FIGHTING HIS BODY

Hit it under the eye 7 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.



Knock out blow to the body puts it under the control of the gospel

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (ESV) Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

MOTIVATION

Resurrection/forward-back.



**OUR FUTURE
HOPE BASED
ON WHAT HE
DID**

**JESUS GAVE UP
HIS RIGHTS**

Incarnation/upside-down



Atonement/inside-out

**OUR
RESPONSE
TO HIM**

