

Galatians 2:9-12

9. And when **James, Cephas, and John, who SEEMED to be PILLARS**, perceived **the grace that had been given to me**, they gave me and Barnabas **the right hand of FELLOWSHIP, that we should go to the Gentiles** and they to the circumcised.

- **Acts 12:17** "But motioning to them with his hand to keep silent, he declared to them how the _____ had brought him out of the prison. And he said, 'Go tell these things to _____ and to the _____.' And he departed and went to another place."
- **II Timothy 1:11** "To which I was appointed a _____, an apostle, and a _____ of the _____."

Definition: James, Cephas, and John, who SEEMED to be PILLARS - A pillar is a solid, supporting column in a building. To refer to the apostles and early leaders of the church as "pillars" means **they were the foundational, supporting leadership in the beginning days of the church**. However, Paul only gives them respect as long as they are following God's truth in the gospel. He doesn't let their position overawe him or blind him to the fact that they are only men and can make mistakes. That's why he says they "seem to be pillars." Cephas is the Greek name for Peter.

- **Acts 15:1-3** "And certain men came down from Judea and _____ the brethren, ' _____ you are _____ according to the custom of _____, you cannot be _____.' Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension (argument) and _____ with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to _____, to the _____ and _____, about this question. So, being sent on their way by the _____, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the _____; and they caused great joy to all the brethren."

Definition: "The right hand of FELLOWSHIP" - To give or extend the "right hand of fellowship" was more than just shaking hands. It meant that they recognized and confirmed Paul and Barnabas as true men of God. **This "right hand of fellowship" or any similar GREETING was NOT to be given to false teachers** who tried to bring in some other kind of doctrine to the churches.

- **II John 9-11** "Whoever transgresses and does _____ abide in the _____ of _____ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone _____ to _____ and does _____ bring this _____, do not _____ him into your house nor _____ him; for he who _____ him shares in his _____ deeds."

10. They desired only **that we should REMEMBER the POOR**, the very thing which **I also was EAGER to DO**.

- **Acts 11:28-30** "Then one of them named Agabus, stood up and showed by the _____ that there was going to be a great _____ (lack of food) throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the _____, each according to his ability, determined to send _____ to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and _____ it to the _____ by the hands of _____ and _____."

- **I Corinthians 16:1-3** "Now concerning the _____ for the _____, as I have given _____ to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: on the first day of the week let each one of you _____ something _____, storing up as he may _____, that there be no collections when I come."
- **Mark 14:3-7** "And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very _____ oil of spikenard. And she broke the flask and poured it on His head. But there were some who were indignant (angry) among themselves, and said, '_____ was this fragrant oil wasted? For it might have been _____ for more than three hundred denarii and _____ to the _____.' And they criticized her sharply. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a _____ work for _____. For you have the _____ with you _____, and _____ you _____ you may _____ them _____; but Me you do not have always.'"
- **Proverbs 14:21** "He who _____ his neighbor _____; but he who has _____ on the _____, happy is he."
- **Proverbs 14:31** "He who oppresses the _____ reproaches his Maker, but he who honors Him has _____ on the _____."

Definition: "We should REMEMBER the POOR" - God's word has many commandments about helping the poor and needy, and some warnings for those who mistreat, oppress, cheat or just neglect to help them. **"The poor", of course, does NOT mean those who REFUSE to work,** and want someone to take care of them just because they are **too lazy to work.**

- **II Thessalonians 3:7-12** "For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example; because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you, nor did we _____ anyone's _____ without _____ for it, but with _____ and hardship we kept _____ night and day so that we might not be a burden to any of you; not because we do not have the right to this (to be supported by them), but in order to offer ourselves as a _____ for you, that you might follow our _____. For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: If anyone will not _____, neither let him _____. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing _____ work at all, but acting like _____. Now such persons we _____ and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to _____ in quiet fashion and _____ their _____ bread."
- **Ephesians 4:28** "Let him who stole _____ no longer, but rather let him labor, _____ with his _____ what is _____, that he may have _____ to _____ him who is in _____."
- **I Timothy 6:17-19** "Command those who are _____ in this present world not to be haughty (proud), not to _____ in uncertain _____ but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do _____, that they be rich in good works, ready to _____, willing to _____, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."
- **Psalms 41:1-2** "_____ is he who considers the _____; the Lord will _____ him in time of _____. The Lord will preserve him and keep him alive, and he will be _____ on the earth; You will _____ deliver him to the will of his _____."
- **John 12:3-8** "Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of _____, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. Then one of His disciples, _____ Iscariot, Simon's son, who would _____ Him, said, "Why was this fragrant oil not _____ for three hundred denarii and given to the _____?" This he

said, _____ that he _____ for the _____, but because he was a _____, and had the _____ box; and he used to _____ what was put in it. Then Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the _____ you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

- **Deuteronomy 15:11** "For the _____ will _____ cease (stop) from the land; therefore I command you, saying, 'You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your _____ and your _____, in your land.'"

11-12. But when Peter had come to Antioch, **I WITHSTOOD HIM to his face, because he was to be BLAMED**; for before certain men came from James, **he would EAT with the GENTILES**; but when they came, **he withdrew and SEPARATED HIMSELF**, fearing those who were of the circumcision.

- **Acts 15:35** " _____ and _____ also remained in _____, teaching and preaching the _____ of the Lord, with many others also."
- **Acts 10:28** "Then he said to them, 'You know how _____ it is for a _____ man to keep _____ with or go to [the house of] one of another nation (the Gentiles). But _____ has _____ me that I should _____ call any _____ common or _____.'"
- **Acts 11:2-12** "And when _____ came up to _____, those of the _____ contended (argued) with him, saying, 'You went in to uncircumcised men and _____ with them!' But Peter explained it to them in order from the beginning, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I _____ a _____, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me. When I observed it intently and considered, I saw four-footed _____ of the earth, wild _____, creeping things, and birds of the air. And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter, _____ and _____.' But I said, 'Not so, Lord!' For nothing common or _____ has at any time entered my _____,' But the voice answered me again from heaven, 'What _____ has _____ you must _____ call common.' Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven. At that very moment, three _____ stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. Then the _____ told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we _____ the _____ house.'"
- **Colossians 3:9-11** "Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the _____ man who is renewed in knowledge according to the _____ of _____ who _____ him, where there is neither _____ nor _____, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all."

Definition: "I WITHSTOOD HIM to his face" - Paul **CONFRONTED Peter about his change of attitude** towards the Gentile believers ("Gentile" means from a non-Jewish background). Before these certain Jewish believers came to town (supposedly from James, the head of the church in Jerusalem), **Peter had been EATING and HAVING FELLOWSHIP freely with ALL Christian believers, whether Jew or Gentile.** All of a sudden, Peter started acting like the Gentiles were not good enough for him to eat with, and this all went back to the Jewish traditions of not eating with anyone who was not Jewish. It says Peter **"withdrew and SEPARATED HIMSELF, FEARING those who were of the circumcision."** Peter did what he did out of **the fear of man**, being afraid of what people would think of him! This is always the **WRONG** motive for doing things, as we should only be concerned with what God thinks of us.

- **Proverbs 29:25** "The _____ of _____ brings a snare (trap, problems), but whoever _____ in the _____ shall be safe."

Definition: "He would EAT with the GENTILES" - According to Jewish tradition, it was wrong for Peter to eat with the Gentiles, and that is what he meant by "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation" (Acts 10:28). However, once God revealed His truth of the gospel, that salvation was offered to the Gentiles as well as the Jews, and that He had cleansed them from being considered "unclean", Peter and the Jewish believers had no more reason to keep themselves separate from the Gentile believers. Read John chapter 4 to see how Jesus went against these "traditions" of the Jews (not against any actual commandment of God, just traditions of men) when He spoke with the non-Jewish Samaritan woman.

- **John 4:8-10** "For His _____ had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the _____ of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that _____, being a _____, ask a _____ from _____, a _____ woman?" For _____ have no _____ with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to he, "If you knew the _____ of God, and _____ it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you _____."

Definition: "He withdrew and SEPARATED HIMSELF" - This separation of the Jews from the Gentiles seems to be a tradition that developed over the years, and not an actual commandment of God. **God's commandments to the nation of Israel when they went into the Promised Land were that they should not "commit any of the abominations" (horrible acts) of the Gentile nations, and that they should not intermarry with them (Exodus 34:12-16).** God said that if they intermarried with the pagan nations, it would draw them away from Him, and would turn them to the idol worship of these nations. **God's desire has always been for the Jewish people to reach out to their Gentile neighbors and bring them to belief in the One True God.** This usually happened by Gentiles becoming Jewish proselytes or converts. However, the nation of Israel failed to reach out to the Gentiles, and instead, became more and more insulated, until they even refused to go into the house of a Gentile person or eat with them. In Colossians 3:9-11, we see how God does NOT see the believers in Christ as certain individual ethnic groups anymore, but **we are all ONE in CHRIST.**

- **Deuteronomy 18:9** "When you come into the _____ which the Lord your God is _____ you, you shall _____ learn to _____ the _____ of those nations."
- **I Kings 11:1-4** "Now King Solomon loved many _____ women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the _____ had said to the sons of Israel, 'You shall not _____ with them, neither shall they associate with you, for they will surely _____ your _____ away after their gods.' Solomon held fast to these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives _____ his _____ away. For it came about when Solomon was old, his _____ turned his _____ away after other _____; and his _____ was not wholly (completely) devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been."