

Paul and Peter's Relationship

EVENT	REFERENCE	AGE/TIME	DATE
Paul meets Jesus on the Road to Damascus	Gal 1:16, Acts 9:1-19	30 years old	34 AD
Shares testimony	Acts 9:20		
Goes to Arabia and then Damascus	Gal 1:17, Acts 9:25	3 years pass	34-37 AD
Has vision of heaven	Gal 1:17, 2 Cor 12		
Barnabas introduces Paul to Peter in Jerusalem on visit	Gal 1:18, Acts 9:26-27	15 days	
Paul goes back to Tarsus in Cilicia	Gal 1:21, Acts 9:30	33 years old, 11 years pass	37 AD-47 AD
Peter has a vision and preaches to Cornelius-Gentile Pentecost!	Ac 10:44–11:18		37-39 AD
“Circumcision party” criticizes Peter for eating with gentiles	Acts 11:1-19		
Barnabas goes to get Paul to pastor in Antioch	Gal 2:1-10, Acts 11:22	43 years old, 1 year passes	47 AD
Paul delivers financial gift to the “brothers” in Jerusalem and gets clarity with Barnabas and Titus(a gentile)	Gal 2:10, Acts 11:27-30		47 AD
Paul has conflict with Peter and “the circumcision party” in Antioch	Gal 2:11–14, Acts 11:26		47 AD
First Missionary Journey	Acts 13-14		48-49
Jerusalem Council (<i>writes the Book of Galatians shortly after this</i>)	Acts 15		49 AD



November 8 & 9, 2025 | No Other Gospel - 4 | Galatians 2:11-16 | Sam Ward, pastor

THE CIRCUMCISION PARTY (ACTS 10–11)

1. Peter sees the VISION from heaven.

Acts 10:28 ...God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean.

2. Cornelius and his household hear the gospel and the Holy Spirit falls on them. This is the Gentile PENTECOST.

3. Peter EXPLAINS events to the “circumcision party” when they question salvation for the gentiles.

Acts 11:2 ...when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, 3“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” 4But Peter began and explained it to them in order:

**The gospel began breaking barriers —
but OLD HABITS die hard.**

Galatians 2:11 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. 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, 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?”

15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; 16 yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

THE CRISIS IN ANTIOCH (GALATIANS 2:11–13)

1. Peter ate with gentiles, but stopped because of FEAR.

Galatians 2:12 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."

2. How was it HYPOCRISY?
 - a. Peter KNEW the gospel, but ACTED like laws and culture defined a follower of Jesus.
 - b. The gospel was at stake because of their ACTIONS.
3. Even BARNABAS!!!

THE CRUCIAL CONVERSATION (GALATIANS 2:14)

1. Paul speaks up for the TRUTH of the gospel.

Galatians 2:14 ...When I saw their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all,...

2. A CRUCIAL conversation means:
 - a. Addressing a pattern of BEHAVIOR that threatens a relationship or mission.
 - b. Speaking HONESTLY and RESPECTFULLY.
3. The two problems Paul names:
 - a. **HYPOCRISY:** Peter lived in freedom, but his actions said that laws and traditions were necessary.
 - b. **PREJUDICE:** Peter separated himself from “*common*” “*Gentile sinners*” when God had made them clean. (Acts 10:28, Gal 2:15)

ASK YOURSELF

- Like Peter, is it possible for me to believe the gospel, without it shaping my thoughts and actions?

THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL (ACTS 15:1–11)

1. Within the year, the CHURCH gathers in Jerusalem to decide.

Acts 15:7 ...Peter stood up and said to them... 8 And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, 9 and he made no distinction between us and them... 11 But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

2. Peter decided to “*TEND MY SHEEP*” and stands with Paul to speak the truth of the gospel. (John 21:15-19)

THE CLARITY OF THE GOSPEL (GALATIANS 2:15–16)

1. Paul and Peter are centered on the gospel instead of CULTURE and laws:

Galatians 2:16 “Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ...”

- a. “*Works*” can’t SAVE you.
- b. We are only JUSTIFIED “*through faith in Jesus.*”

ASK YOURSELF

- When I have failed in the past, how has the gospel of grace restored me?
- How will I change the way I have crucial conversations with other believers in light of the gospel?

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