DAY 5 READ: GALATIANS 2:1-5

PUT YOURSELF IN PAUL'S SHOES. HE HAS MET PETER (WE READ LAST CHAPTER, MIGHT BE CEPHAS IN YOUR VERSION.

PETER WAS THE ONE WHO DENIED THAT HE KNEW JESUS BEFORE JESUS DIED, AFTER PROMISING IN FRONT OF EVERYONE THAT HE WOULD STICK WITH JESUS NO MATTER WHAT).

NOW, HE IS GOING TO MEET ALL THE PEOPLE THAT JESUS SPENT THE MOST TIME WITH WHEN HE WAS ON EARTH. PAUL HAS GOTTEN CLOSE TO HIM, HAS PREACHED HIS MESSAGE FOR 14 YEARS...BUT THESE GUYS KNEW HIM.

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL?

ONE OF THE CORE ISSUES WAS CIRCUMCISION - I KNOW - WHAT?

SOME READING THIS MIGHT NOT EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT IS! IT IS SUCH A NON-ISSUE THESE DAYS. BUT CIRCUMCISION WAS PART OF THE COVENANT ISRAEL HAD. COVENANTS WERE CUT, AND CIRCUMCISION WAS AN OUTWARD SIGN OF BEING SET APART FOR GOD.

NEXT PAGE >>



DAY 5

PRAISE GOD THAT THE NEW COVENANT CONTAINS BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER, AND NOT CIRCUMCISION. BUT HERE, RIGHT AT THE OUTSET, THIS WAS THE QUESTION:

WHAT DO WE HAVE TO CHANGE TO COME TO CHRIST? HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU WERE TITUS?

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT YOU HAVE FELT PEOPLE NEEDED TO CHANGE BEFORE THEY COULD COME TO CHRIST?

THIS MIGHT NOT BE IMMEDIATELY OBVIOUS, SO PAUSE, AND REALLY THINK. WHICH PEOPLE DO YOU THINK NEED TO CHANGE BEFORE THEY COME TO CHURCH? BEFORE THEY COME TO CHRIST?

THE TRUTH IS THAT GOD DOES DEMAND CHANGE OF US. HIS COMMAND TO TAKE UP OUR CROSS IS AN INVITATION TO DIE TO OURSELVES AND OUR DESIRES EVERY DAY.

BUT IF WE MAKE OUR SALVATION CONDITIONAL UPON THIS CHANGE, ARE WE STILL ADHERING TO THE SIMPLE GOSPEL?

SUBMIT YOUR TENSION TO GOD, AND ASK HIM TO HELP YOU THINK HIS WAY ON THESE THINGS.

