



Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • June 25 & 26, 2022 • Acts, week 72 • Msg. 22-20

1. Affirm _____

(vv.6-11)

2. Be _____

(vv.12-18)

3. Push _____

(vv.19-21)

Acts 15:6 *The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. 7 And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. 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, having cleansed their hearts by faith. 10 Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? 11 But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will." 12 And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. 13 After they finished speaking, James replied, "Brothers, listen to me. 14 Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. 15 And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written, 16 " 'After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, 17 that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things 18 known from of old.' 19 Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, 20 but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. 21 For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues."*
(ESV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Romans 4:1-8** and **Colossians 1:12-14**. In what ways is this immediate and full change in status before God so different than many religious systems and even the way non-Christians are prone to think about salvation?
2. Read **Ezra 7:6, 10**. Some would quote these verses about one skilled in the Scripture, to support church leaders creating new doctrines and requiring Christians to follow practices not found in the Bible. Why is this an unwarranted conclusion?
3. Read **Ephesians 2:8-9** and **Romans 3:21-26**. What are some of the practical implications of affirming these truths about salvation when it comes to how we view ourselves, our forgiveness, and our Christian lives?
4. Read **Ephesians 2:10** and **James 2:14-19**. How is the role of good works often misunderstood? Why do you think people are prone to think that way? How would you biblically explain the role of good works and forgiveness?
5. Read **2 Corinthians 5:17** and **Luke 6:43-45**. What are some of the evidences of your salvation which bring you assurance that God has graciously made you a new person from the inside out?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 09-19 – **Making Sense of Abraham's Faith & Works**
Msg. 12-12 – **Real Change from the Inside Out**
Msg. 06-14 – **A Crash Course in Repentance and Faith**
Msg. 13-03 – **Being Sure to Move from Creeds to Deeds**
Msg. 06-52 – **Good Works & Eternal Life: Avoiding the Big Misunderstanding**
Msg. 14-06 – **The Importance of Admitting the Obvious**
Msg. 16-51 – 16-62 – **Bad Theology** (12-part series on cults & world religions)

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

June 26th Job 7-9 & Ac.7:44-60
June 27th Job 10-12 & Ac.8:1-25
June 28th Job 13-15 & Ac.8:26-40
June 29th Job 16-18 & Ac.9:1-22
June 30th Job 19-20 & Ac.9:23-43
July 1st Job 21-22 & Ac.10:1-23
July 2nd Job 23-25 & Ac.10:24-48
July 3rd Job 26-28 & Ac.11

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Beverly, James A. **Nelson's Illustrated Guide to Religions**. Thomas Nelson, 2009.
Boa, Kenneth. **Cults, World Religions and the Occult**. Victor Books, 1990.
Chantry, Walter J. **Today's Gospel: Authentic or Synthetic?** Banner of Truth, 1970.
Geisler, Norman and Ron Rhodes. **Correcting the Cults: Expert Responses to Scripture Twisting**. Baker Books, 2005.
House, H. Wayne. **Charts of Cults, Sects & Religious Movements**. Zondervan, 2000.
Lawson, Steven L. **Absolutely Sure: Settle the Question of Eternal Life**. Multnomah, 1999.
MacArthur, John. **Faith Works: The Gospel According to the Apostles**. Zondervan, 1994.
McCarthy, James. **The Gospel According to Rome: Comparing Catholic Tradition and the Word of God**. Harvest, 1995.
McDowell, Josh and Don Stewart. **Handbook of Today's Religions**. Thomas Nelson, 1996.
Rhodes, Ron. **Handbook on Cults & New Religions: What Do They Believe?** Harvest House Publishers, 2005.
Sire, James W. **Scripture Twisting: Twenty Ways the Cults Misread the Bible**. InterVarsity Press, 1980.
Sproul, R. C. **Faith Alone: The Evangelical Doctrine of Justification**. Baker Books, 1995.
Whitney, Donald. **How Can I Be Sure I'm a Christian? What the Bible Says About Assurance**. NavPress, 1994.