

The Book of Incarnations!
Part 11: Chiseling Away!
Slide Notations

I am God's Masterpiece... hidden beneath the debris... I am His Masterpiece!

Galatians 2 Now when Peter came to Antioch, I withstood him face to face, because he was to be blamed! Before certain men came from headquarters, Peter would eat and fellowship with the Gentile converts but when they came from Jerusalem, he pulled back and put distance between himself and them because of his fear of the conservative group. And the rest of the converted Jews also joined in the hypocrisy with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with it. When I saw that they were not walking in the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to accept Jewish customs? We who are Jews by birth, and not converts from the Gentiles, know that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ... it's exactly as we have believed in Him and have been justified in Him... so while we are justified by faith do we now become sinners by acting contrary the truth of our faith? If I build up the things which I have destroyed I make myself a sinner all over again!"

The Inspiration...

It is no fun having Paul as a friend! No conversation! Just, "Not doing this!" ***Our sin damages a lot of other people!*** Other Jewish disciples/ *even Barnabas!* But what about those "other" believers? The ones who already had a complex? ***'Human-fear' stinks!*** Peter was a champion/liberty in Christ! Fear put him back in bondage/destroyed! Fear defeated his testimony/leader!

We may have the inspiration to lead a cause but we must have an incarnational experience to live as true leaders!

Incarnation...

Be prepared to confront public sins publicly and private sins, privately! This is a difficult and sadly needed duty! And the motivation is: "Health!" No vanity/pride, no condemnation! *To keep people from being hardened and confirmed in their errors!* Hypocrisy/bigotry. *As a demonstration of what it means to be a true believer!* (both sides!)

Some men's sins are obvious... others require knowledge of the word, operation of the Spirit to see...
1Tim 5.24 Requires presence of mind; courage and boldness! **2Tim1.7** Can't fear men/must fear God!
Mt10.28 All 'perfecting' must all be done in love/for the sake of love! **Gal5.13 E4.2,15**

Duty to Confront! "on some make a difference with compassion, on others save them with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even their garment being touched by the flesh!" **Jude 22,23** "brothers, if any of you errs from the truth and one converts him; let him know that he that turns the sinner around from his way saves a soul from death and hides a multitude of sins!" **James 5.19,20** Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear. **1Tim 5.20** Preach the word; be instant, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts they will heap to themselves teachers; they will turn away their itching ears from the truth, and be turned to fables. **2Tim 4.2** Hold fast to the faithful word so that you can draw in and refute the false teachers. For there are many unruly, idle and misleading talkers, mostly among the 'religious,' whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole groups, teaching what they should not for personal gain. Rebuke them sharply so that they can be sound in the faith not giving any credence to Jewish myths and traditions of men that turn people from the truth! **Titus 1.9-14**

And believers not only have a duty to one another, we have a duty to God to be faithful to yield to His 'chiseling' work!

Become the immunization not the infection! The bug was *dissimulation!* *Hupokrisei*: a feigned part, faking the faith... Peter, who knew the worthlessness of the Jewish traditions as a standard... **v14** now compelling gentile

converts to act like traditional Jews instead of liberated Christians! Became entangled again in the affairs of this life! **2Tim2.4**

What if Paul had played the “I didn’t see nothin’” or the “not my business,” or “no big deal” part in Peter’s play? It had already spread from Peter to the converted Jews and *EVEN BARNABAS!* Infected Barnabas, my sponsor/friend **A4**, good man full of the Holy Ghost and faith **A11**, fellow-laborer in the mission **A13** (*How much farther?*)

Paul didn’t need the grief... he had a good thing going on his own... but he had a duty to keep the body of Christ healthy!

And so do you!

Operating at this interactive level of faith can be hazardous... Paul and Barnabas split up soon afterward over a dispute about Mark’s fitness for ministry... **A15.39** *Paul would not yield!* Found Silas right there under his nose, ready to go, and took the next steps in a new chapter! **15.40**

It is not easy following Christ; lots of ‘alone’ time, not a fond guest... but there is an invitation to a great dinner... A blessing for those servants the Lord finds at work (chiseling) when He comes!