GRACE AND GRACE ALONE

Phil Hahn
www.experiencetherock.com

[1]But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers,
"Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you
cannot be saved." [2]And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension
and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were
appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this
question. [3]So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed
through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion
of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. [4]When they
came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles
and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. [5]But
some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and
said, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the
law of Moses."

[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, 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."

Grace Alone by Faith Alone because of Christ Alone!