

- I. The disagreement about the nature of salvation (v. 1-5)
 - A. Some insisted that salvation is by following the law
 - B. Some insisted that salvation is by grace alone
- II. The defense of the salvation by grace (v. 6-18)
 - A. Salvation by grace is proved by past revelation
 - B. Salvation by grace is proved by the gift of the Spirit

“He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.” (Galatians 3:14)

- C. Salvation by grace is proved by purity of heart
- D. Salvation by grace is proved by the inability of the law

“For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.” (Romans 8:3)

- E. Salvation by grace is proved by miracles done
- F. Salvation by grace is proved by prophecy

- III. The decision in favor of grace (v. 19-29)
 - A. Salvation is by grace alone

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” (Romans 3:23-24)

- B. Salvation is not dependent on keeping the law

“You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.” (Galatians 5:4)

- C. Salvation is not dependent on observing rituals

“I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, who whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ.” (Philippians 3:8-9)

- D. Fellowship is enhanced by avoiding offending other believers

“Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.” (Romans 14:19-20)

IV. The church united in the grace of God (v. 30-35)

“For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him.” (Romans 10:12)

A. The grace of God brought encouragement to the church

B. The grace of God strengthened the church

“Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by ceremonial foods, which are of no value to those who eat them.” (Hebrews 13:9)

C. The grace of God brought peace to the fellowship