

New Hebron Missionary Baptist Church

newhebronlr.org

Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr. Bible Study

"...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation..."

(2 Tim. 3:15)

Bold Leadership

{Galatians 2:11-13}

Confrontation: a meeting of person face to face; an open conflict of opposing ideas or forces. Whether we like it or not God calls us at times to confront other Christians regarding their sin. We are never to be rude or harsh, but out of love for our brothers and our obedience to Christ, we are to lovingly point out sin. It may be awkward. It may even strain relationships. But if we do not address sin in individuals it will potentially contaminate the church.

- **v.11)** "But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed."
 - "But" Paul is introducing a new discussion. In v. 1-10 he's been talking about how his authority was acknowledged by the church in Jerusalem. But now he's about to tell them how he used that authority to correct Peter.
 - The tension of the moment is high because of where the correction took place, and who was involved.
 - "Antioch" this city is a hallowed place to Paul. It is where the followers of Christ were first called "Christians" {Acts 11:26}. It was also a launching pad for Paul's missionary journeys.
 - "Peter" Peter is the unofficial leader of the disciples. He was also fiery and aggressive as well. {Jn. 18:10}
 - "withstood him to the face" Paul didn't let the sacred place or the beloved person stop him from fulfilling handling this situation.
 - This was a difficult duty but it was his duty none the less. It is the mature leader that learns to obey God when fulfilling his duty is hard. {Acts 5:29; Jn. 18:4}
 - Salvation is free but serving the Lord will cost you something.

- "because he was to be blamed" Peter was taught by Jesus for three years and he was an apostle of Christ, but he still failed.
- No matter how great, how strong, or how spiritual you are, you will fail sometimes. {Rom. 3:23}
- Not only is it important for leaders to be bold in correcting other Christians, we must be humble enough to receive it ourselves. {Ex. 18:13-18}
- **v.13)** "And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation."
 - Here Paul describes the effect of Peter's inconsistent conduct. It began to spread throughout their fellowship.
 - If sin is not quickly, directly and biblically addressed it can affect the entire church. {1 Cor. 5:6,7}

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