Acts 15

1 And certain ones having come down from Judea were teaching the brothers that if you are not circumcised according to the custom (ethei) of Moses, you are not able to be saved.

2 And there having been no small dissent (standing, position) and dispute (searching, questioning) by Paul and Barnabas with (to) them, they arranged that Paul and Barnabas and certain others from out of them to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this inquiry.

3 They therefore having been sent forward by the church passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, telling in detail the conversion (turning upon) of the ethnicities. And they brought great joy to all the brothers.

4 And having come unto Jerusalem, they were welcomed by (from) the church and the apostles and the elders. And they reported all that God had done with them.

5 And there rose up a certain sect of those from out of the Pharisees who believed, saying, It is necessary to circumcise them and command them to keep the law of Moses.

6 And the apostles and elders were gathered together to see about this matter (word).

7 And much discussion having happened, Peter having risen up, said to them, Men, brothers, you recognize that from the early days God among us chose (elected) through my mouth for the ethnicities to hear the word of the gospel and to believe.

8 And God, the Heart-knower, bore witness to them, having given them the Holy Spirit, just as also to us,

9 And He made not one distinction between us and them, having purified their hearts by faith.

10 Now then, why are you testing God to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been strong enough to bear?

11 But rather we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus to be saved, according to that manner they also.

12 And all the multitude kept silent and heard Barnabas and Paul explaining (latin-narrantes-declaring like narrating, root for English exegete) what signs and wonders, God had done among the ethnicities through them.

13 And after they were silent, James answered, saying, Men, brothers, hear me.

14 Simon has explained (exegesato- root of the English word exegete) just how God first visited (looked upon, scoped upon) to take from out of the ethnicities a people for His name.

15 And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:

16 After these things I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen; and the ruins (demolish, dig down under) of it, I will rebuild and will set it upright,

17 So that the remainder of men might seek out the Lord and all the ethnicities upon whom My name upon them has been called, says the Lord doing these things,

18 Known from eternity (the age) {not in some translations- are to God all His works}.

19 Therefore, I judge not to trouble (annoy, disturb) those who are turning (converting) to (upon) God from the ethnicities;

20 But rather to write to them to hold away (abstain, latin-abstineant) from the pollutions (contaminations) of the idols, and fornication (sexual immorality), and that which is strangled (killed without letting out the blood, latin-suffocatis-strangled like suffocated), and from blood.

21 For Moses from out of generations of old, has in every city those preaching him, being read on every Sabbath in the synagogues.

22 Then it seemed good to the apostles and to the elders along with the whole church, to send chosen men from out of them unto Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas called Barnabas and Silas, leading men among the brothers,

23 Having written through their hand, The apostles and the elders, brothers, to those in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: Brothers from out of the ethnicities, Greetings.

24 Since we have heard that some from out of us went out, troubled you by words, upsetting your souls, saying, Be circumcised and keep the law to whom we had not given commands;

25 It seemed good to us having become of the same passion and having chosen men to send to you with our beloved, Barnabas and Paul,

26 Men having handed over (pledged, committed) their lives for (by, under) the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, and they will tell you by word [of mouth] the same things.

28 For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to place no further (more, greater) burden upon you, except these necessary things:

29 To hold away from things sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what is strangled, and from fornication (sexual immorality). Thoroughly keeping (guarding) yourselves from these, you will do (practice) well. Farewell (Be strong!).

30 They therefore having been sent away, went unto Antioch and having gathered together the multitude, they gave over the letter (epistle).

31 And having read it, they rejoiced at (upon) the entreaty.

32 Judas and Silas, being themselves also prophets, entreated the brothers through much speech (word), and confirmed them (made them stronger).

33 And having made time, they were sent away with peace from the brothers to those having sent them.

34 {however it seemed good to Silas to remain there.}

35 And Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and preaching the gospel, the word of the Lord, with many others also.

36 And after some days, Barnabas said to Paul, Let us return and look (scope) upon (oversee) the brothers in every city in which we have announced the word of the Lord, [and see] how they are.

37 And Barnabas intended to take with them, also John called Mark;

38 However Paul thought it better (deemed it worthy) to not take him along as a companion with them, who had withdrawn away from them from Pamphylia and had not gone with them unto the work.

39 Therefore a sharp disagreement (provocation) happened, so that they separated away from one another. And Barnabas having taken Mark sailed away unto Cyprus;

40 Paul however having chosen Silas went forth having been committed to the grace of the Lord by the brothers.

41 And he passed through Syria and Cilicia, making firm (confirming) the churches.