

Establishing authority by the Scriptures Acts 15.1-19

The way to settle a debate in church – the kingdom – look for God approved examples (not just apostolic as Peter and Paul had a difference) (make certain they apply to us and not to the Jews, OT, etc.); look for a command of God (including prophecies); use judgment (necessary inference, implication, conclusion)

v. 19 The logical conclusion – the only one possible thus “a necessary inference” or a “necessary implication”. The Scriptures imply and we infer.

Act 15:20 but that we write to them that they abstain from things contaminated by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. (21) "For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, since he is read in the synagogues every Sabbath."

Acts 18.26 and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

Rom 14:19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. (20) Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense. (21) It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles. (22) The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. (23) But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

Act 20:6 We sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and came to them at Troas within five days; and there we stayed seven days. (7)

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

Act 15:22 Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas--Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren, (23) and they sent this letter by them, "The apostles and the brethren who are elders, to the brethren in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the Gentiles, greetings.

(24) "Since we have heard that some of our number to whom we gave no instruction have disturbed you with their words, unsettling your souls, (25) it seemed good to us, having become of one mind, to select men to send to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, (26) men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (27) "Therefore we have sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will also report the same things by word of mouth.

Act 15:28 "For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: (29) that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell." (30) So when they were sent away, they went down to Antioch; and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter.

1Co 8:4 Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that there is no such thing as an idol in the world, and that there is no God but one. (5) For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords, (6) yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him. (7) However not all men have this knowledge; but some, being accustomed to the idol until now, eat food as if it were sacrificed to an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

1Ti 4:1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, (2) by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, 3 men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. (4) For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; (5) for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.

Rom 14:14 I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. ... (19) So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. (20) Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense. (21) It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

Act 15:31 When they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement. (32) Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, encouraged and strengthened the brethren with a lengthy message. (33) After they had spent time there, they were sent away from the brethren in peace to those who had sent them out. (34) [But it seemed good to Silas to remain there.] (35) But Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and preaching with many others also, the word of the Lord.

The start of the 2nd Missionary Journey (51 AD)

Act 15:36-37 After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are." (37) Barnabas wanted to take John, called Mark, along with them also.



Act 15:38 But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. (39) And there occurred such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.



Act 15:40 But Paul chose Silas and left, being committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord.
(41) And he was traveling through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

