

**New Mount Moriah AMEC**  
**Bible Study, 9 June 2026**  
**Acts 15:23-35 NKJV)**

**Introduction:** In last week's lesson, we discussed the Jerusalem Council debate regarding the Salvation of Gentiles. In tonight's lesson, we will discuss the results of leadership working in harmony with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the impact on believers.

**Lesson Outline:**

- Vs. 23           **The Unity of Leadership**
- Vs. 24           **The Danger of False Teachers**
- Vs. 25-27       **Correcting Wrong**
- Vs. 28-29       **Being Led by The Holy Spirit**
- Vs. 30-35       **A Reason to Rejoice**

**Lesson Review:**

- Vs. 23           **The Unity of Leadership:** It was in the Spirit of humility that the Apostles, Elders, and brethren worked together. Humility is not a sign of weakness; it is a sign of restraint. **Greeting** (Chairein) means to rejoice or be glad. It speaks to Godly fellowship of believers.
- Psalm 133:1 reads, "**Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; for there, the Lord commanded the blessing, life forevermore.**"

**Supporting Scripture:** Romans 12:3

Philippians 2:4-5

**Life Application:** After reading **Philippians 2:4-5**, why didn't the Apostles who were chosen by Jesus, who witnessed His baptism and ascension into heaven, elevate themselves over the Elders and Brothers?

- Vs. 24           **The Danger of False Teachers:** Please note the words, "**Went out from us (\*)**." Those who left the Jerusalem church delivered their own message, not the church message! Their message **Troubled** (Tarasso) the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia.

**Troubled** means that they disturb, agitate, unsettle, throw into confusion, and deeply upset Gentile believers. **Life Application:** Why would the message of those who misrepresented the church be so troubling to the Gentiles?

**Unsettling** was used in extrabiblical writings to speak of someone going bankrupt. The souls, the inner well-being of the saints, were in a crisis. **Subverting** (anaskeuazo) means to overturn, dismantle, or unsettle completely.

**Supporting Scripture: (\*)** 2 Peter 2:1

Romans 16:17

Vs. 25-27

**Correcting a Wrong: One accord** (homothymandon) means with one mind, united purpose, in complete harmony. **Risked their souls** (psychas) means to give over, surrender, or deliver up. As documented in our supporting scriptures, those delivering the letter ( Paul, Barnabas, Judas, and Silas) to the Gentiles were ready to surrender their lives for the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is one thing to read about a decision but another to hear from those who are making the decision.

**Supporting Scriptures:** Matthew 5:11

Acts 5:41

**Life Application:** What are you willing to give over, surrender, or deliver up for the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Vs. 28-29

**Being Led by the Holy Spirit: Seemed Good (dokeo)** means to think, determine, or consider proper, a word of careful judgment and deliberate consensus." This is the only place in NT where the Holy Spirit is named as a co-deliberator in a church decision, not just an inspirer, but a participant.

**Abstain** (apecho) means to keep away or refrain from. **Burden** (Baros) means a heavy weight, which loads the pressed down.

**Supporting Scripture:** Proverbs 3:5-6

John 16:13

**Life Application:** How do we determine if we are being led by the Holy Spirit or our flesh?

Vs. 30-35

**A Reason to Rejoice: Encouragement** (paraklesis) means comfort, or exhortation. **Exhort** (parakaleo) means to encourage, urge, comfort, or strengthen. **Strengthen** (episterizo) means to make firm, establish, or support. **Preaching** (proclaiming good news) and **teaching** are vital in every house of God. The Rev. Octavius Smith always says to me, "Rev., you have to preach it and teach it."

NIV reads **the blessing of peace** instead of **sent back with greetings** (NKJV). This is more than being absent from conflict; it is well-being, a restored covenant relationship.

**Supporting Scripture:** Matthew 28:19-20

**Life Application:** Are you a source of restoration and unity in God's House, or division?"