

What Revival Looks Like
How Revival Acts
Acts 15:1-11



FIRED UP

Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, *and said*, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

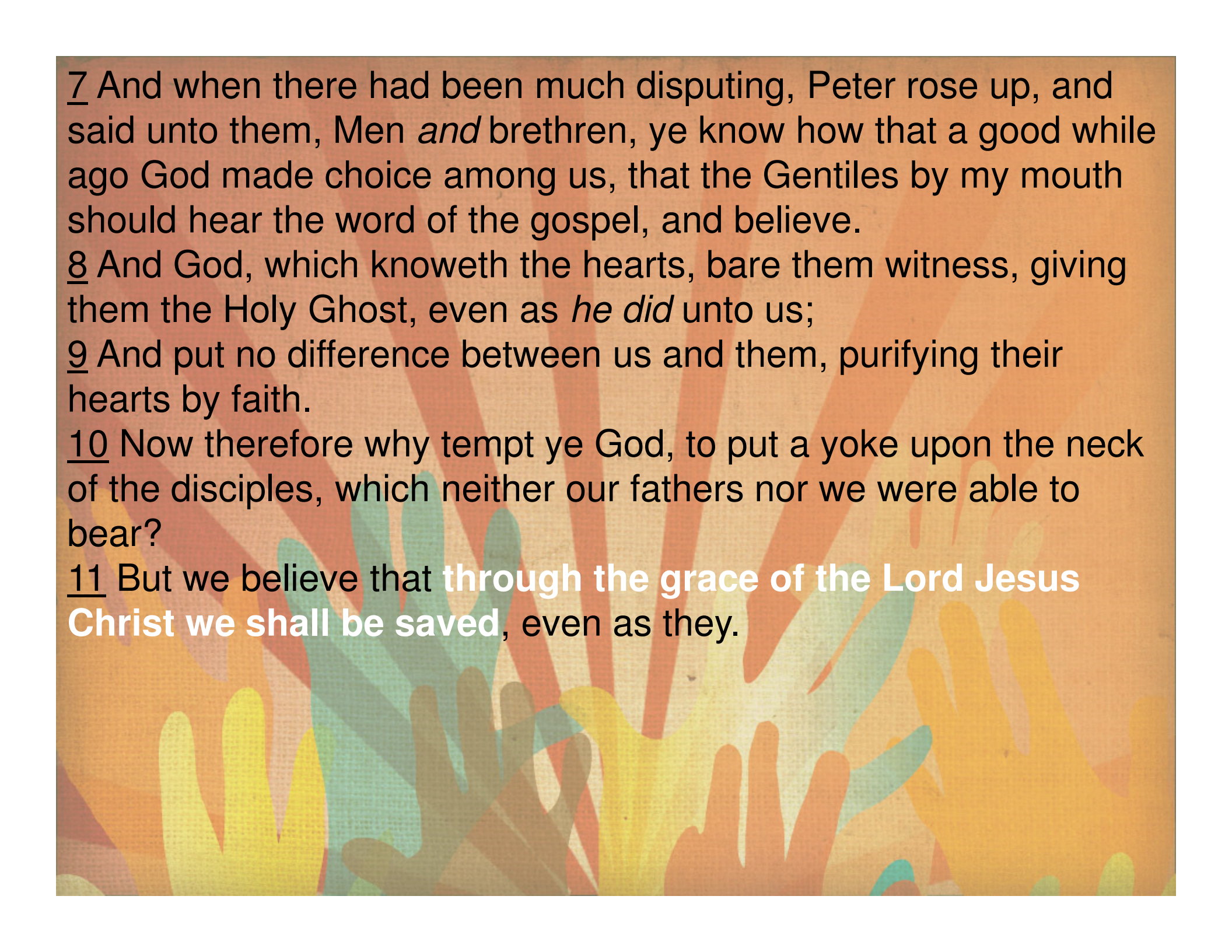
2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3 And **being brought on their way by the church**, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, **they were received of the church**, and *of* the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command *them* to keep the law of Moses.

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.



7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men *and* brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us;

9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But we believe that **through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved**, even as they.

I. THE ORGANIZATION

II. THE OPERATION

III. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS – SIMON,

IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS – STEPHEN,

V. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS –

SAUL/PAUL THE PIONEER, 13:1-21:26

A. The First Missionary Journey: Exploration, 13:1-15:35

1. The Commencement of the Journey, 13:1-3

2. The Complications of the Journey, 13:4-14:20

3. The Completion of the Journey, 14:21-15:35

a. The Furlough, 14:21-28

(1) The Great Needs They Saw, 14:21-25

(a) As They Slow Down the Journey

Home, 14:21-23

i. The Need to Evangelize Sinners,

ii. The Need to Establish Saints,

- The Courage of the Missionaries, 14:21b

- The Concern of the Missionaries, 14:22

iii. The Need to Elect Shepherds,

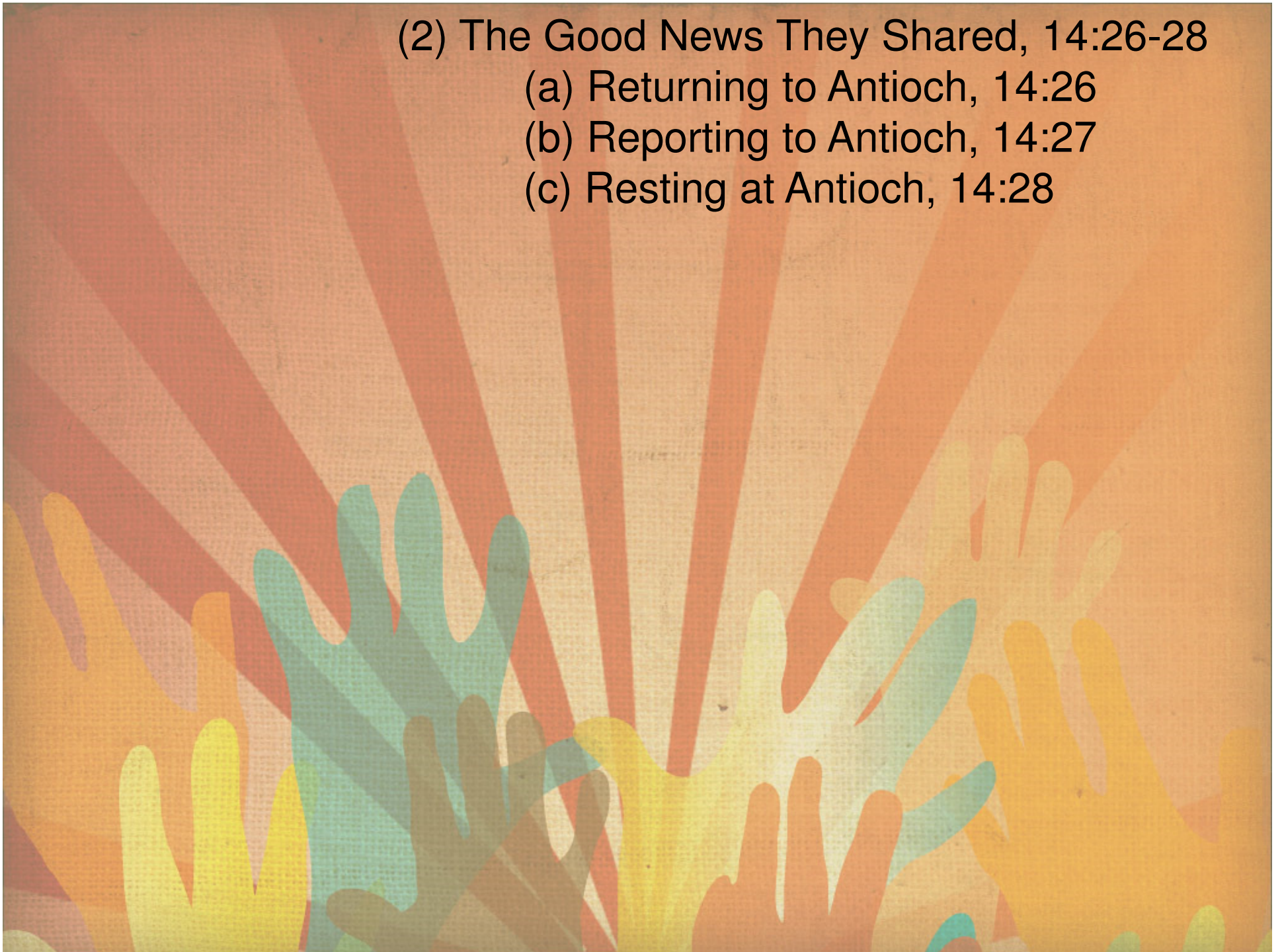
(b) As They Speed Up the Journey Home,

(2) The Good News They Shared, 14:26-28

(a) Returning to Antioch, 14:26

(b) Reporting to Antioch, 14:27

(c) Resting at Antioch, 14:28



Tonight we begin looking at chapter 15, and a theological disagreement involving the Jewish believers. This chapter counters two great heresies:

1. The heresy of “working to get saved.”
2. The heresy of “working to stay saved.”

b. The Furor, 15:1-6

(1) The False Doctrine, 15:1

Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, *and said*, Except ye be circumcised after **the manner of Moses**, ye cannot be saved.

Gen. 17:14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

Ex. 12:48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.

Gal. 2:11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, **I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.**

12 For before that certain came from James, **he did eat with the Gentiles:** but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; **insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.**

Original Word: ὑπόκρισις

Transliteration: hupokrisis

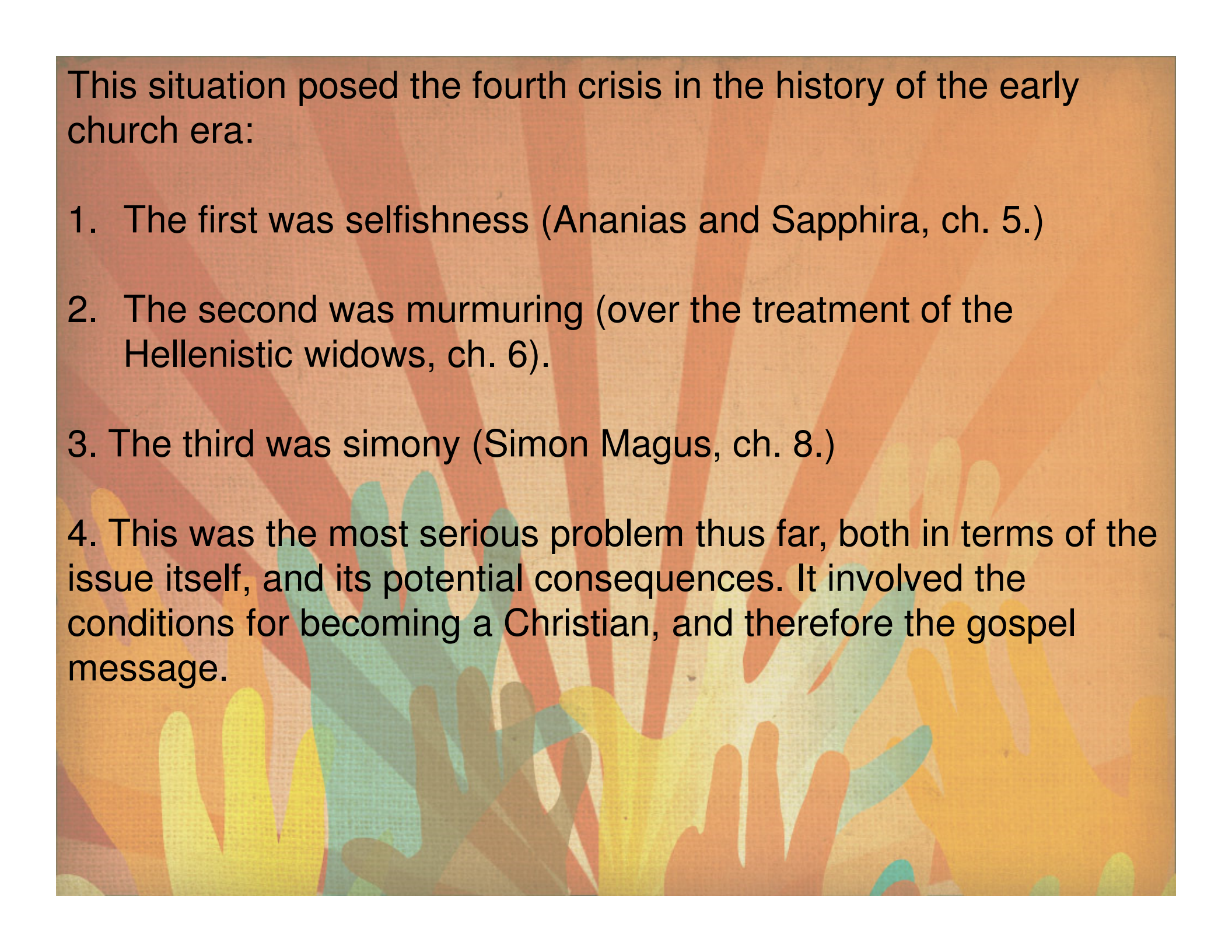
Definition: (lit: stage-playing), a response, answer, hypocrisy, dissembling.

hypókrisis literally refers to "someone acting *under a mask*," and implies a *specific application* (type) of *hypocrisy*

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5272.htm>

Gal. 2:14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before *them* all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?
15 *We who are* Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,
16 Knowing that **a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for **by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.**



The background of the slide features a stylized illustration of numerous hands reaching upwards. The hands are rendered in various colors including shades of orange, yellow, green, and brown, creating a sense of unity and collective effort. The overall aesthetic is warm and textured, with a halftone dot pattern overlaid on the colors.

This situation posed the fourth crisis in the history of the early church era:

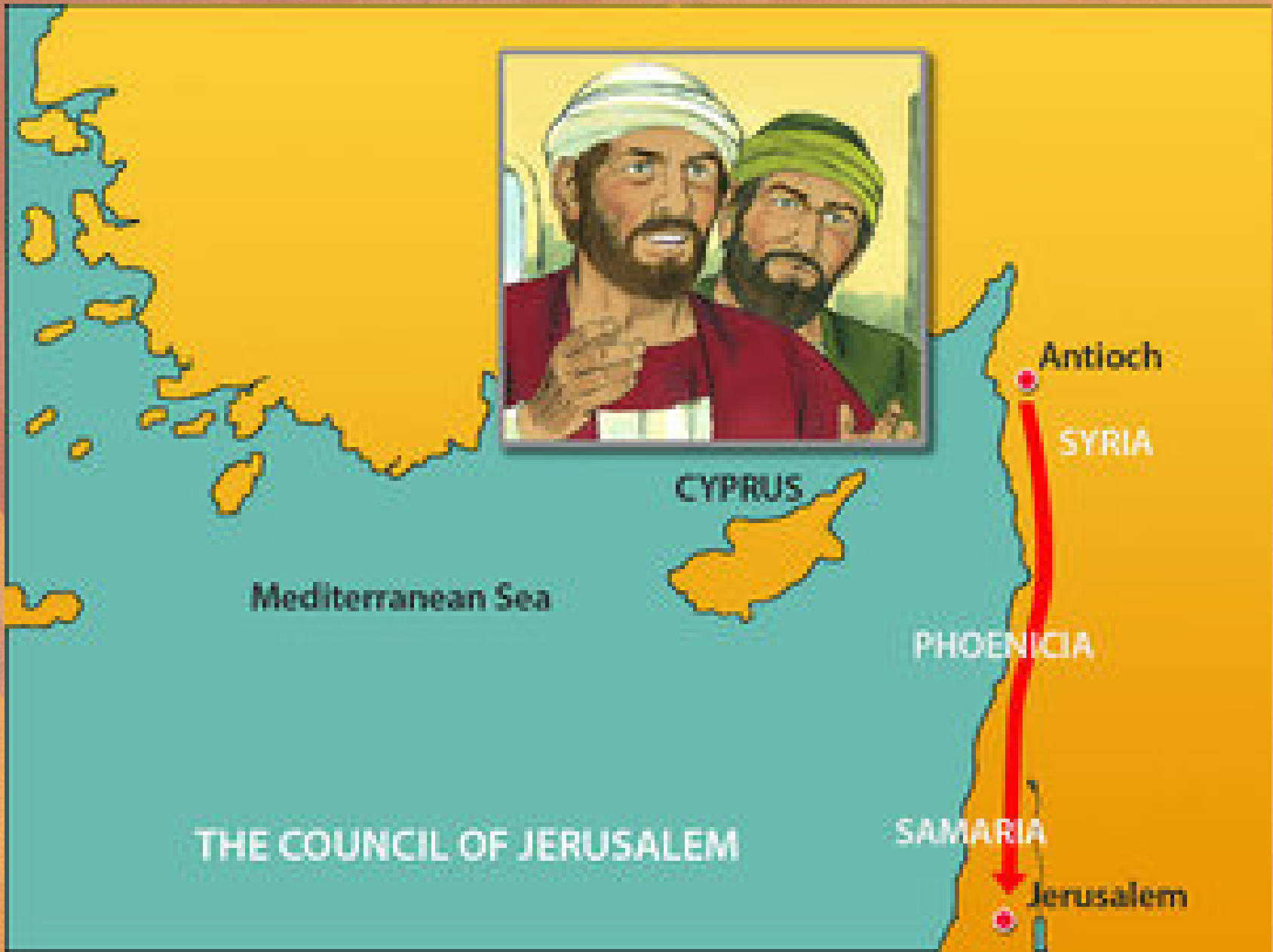
1. The first was selfishness (Ananias and Sapphira, ch. 5.)
2. The second was murmuring (over the treatment of the Hellenistic widows, ch. 6).
3. The third was simony (Simon Magus, ch. 8.)
4. This was the most serious problem thus far, both in terms of the issue itself, and its potential consequences. It involved the conditions for becoming a Christian, and therefore the gospel message.

(2) The Furious Debate, 15:2a “When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them...”

(3) The Fair Decision, 15:2b “...they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.”

(4) The Faithful Delegates, 15:3

Acts 15:3 And **being brought on their way by the church**, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and **they caused great joy unto all the brethren.**



<http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/paul-jerusalem/>

(5) The Final Destination, 15:4

Acts 15:4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, **they were received of the church**, and *of* the apostles and elders, and **they declared all things that God had done with them.**

(6) The Further Dissension, 15:5

Acts 15:5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command *them* to keep the law of Moses.

1 Thess. 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

14 For ye, brethren, became **followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus**: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they *have* of the Jews:

15 Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and **they please not God, and are contrary to all men**:

16 Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

Original Word: ἐναντίος

Transliteration: enantios

Definition: opposite, opposed, **contrary**; the adversary.

enantios properly, "in the sphere against," i.e. opposed (contrary) to, *in principle and in practice*; "set against, adverse to."

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1727.htm>

Isa. 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: **I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles**, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

Isa. 55:5 Behold, thou shalt call a nation *that* thou knowest not, and nations *that* knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.

6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Zech. 8:22 Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.

Isa. 2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and **all nations shall flow unto it.**

Isa. 11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; **to it shall the Gentiles seek**: and his rest shall be glorious.

Isa. 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

3 And **the Gentiles shall come to thy light**, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

(7) The Formal Discussion, 15:6

Acts 15:6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

Conclusion

Mt. 11:28 **Come unto me**, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest.**

29 Take my yoke upon you, and **learn of me**; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and **ye shall find rest unto your souls.**

30 For **my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**