

November 19 Answers

- 1) The first recorded effort to subvert the “truth of the gospel” took place during Paul’s visit to Jerusalem to bring **famine** relief to the brothers living in Judea. Paul wrote that “false brothers” were secretly brought in to “spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into **slavery**” (Gal 2:4). Paul stood his ground, and **Titus** was not forced to be circumcised. This teaches us how important it is to **resist** those who preach a gospel which is not consistent with Scripture. After this confrontation, the apostles encouraged Paul to “go to the **Gentiles**,” and when he and Barnabas returned to Syrian Antioch, the Spirit set them apart to be **missionaries**. They preached the gospel in Cyprus and southern Turkey, and Paul’s message is a model for evangelism today. Jesus’ **resurrection** is the core tenet of the gospel. We need to be challenging the world to find forgiveness in Christ. Paul’s first missionary journey was the beginning of a long and fruitful ministry to the Gentiles, and it serves as an **example** of how to build the church. Paul preached the gospel to Jew and Gentile alike, endured persecution, took time to **disciple** his new converts, established a **church** in each city, appointed **elders** who would care for the flock, and exhorted the Galatians to continue “in the faith” (cf. Acts 14:22; Gal 3:3).