

# Galatians 2:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

## Analysis

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**To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.** The emphatic double negative οὐδὲ πρὸς ὥραν, "not even for an hour") shows Paul's unyielding stance—he refused *hypotagē* (ὑποταγῆ, "subjection/submission") to the false brothers' demands even momentarily. This wasn't personal stubbornness but principled defense of gospel truth.

The purpose clause reveals Paul's motivation: *hina hē alētheia tou euaggeliou diamenē pros hymas* (ἴνα ἡ ἀλήθεια τοῦ εὐαγγελίου διαμείνῃ πρὸς ὑμᾶς, "that the truth of the gospel might remain with you"). The verb *diamenē* (διαμείνῃ) means "continue" or "abide permanently"—Paul fought for the Galatians' future freedom, not just present circumstances. *Alētheia* (ἀλήθεια, "truth") isn't mere doctrinal accuracy but reality itself: salvation is by grace through faith, period.

Paul's refusal to compromise demonstrates that some theological issues are non-negotiable. The gospel isn't a starting point for negotiation but the foundation that cannot shift. When core doctrines like justification by faith are at stake, love demands confrontation, not accommodation. Paul's seemingly inflexible stance was actually the most loving response—preserving the Galatians' freedom in Christ.

## Historical Context

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Paul's refusal to circumcise Titus (v. 3) was the practical test of this principle. Any concession would have established precedent that Gentile converts needed circumcision for full acceptance. Within a generation, this would have made Christianity effectively inaccessible to Gentiles and transformed it into a Jewish sect rather than a universal faith. Paul's firmness at this moment shaped Christianity's future identity.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. What theological truths are so central to the gospel that they require unwavering defense?
2. When does love for others demand confrontation rather than compromise on doctrine?
3. In what situations might you be tempted to concede gospel truth for temporary peace or acceptance?

## Interlinear Text

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|                  |               |                      |                       |                      |            |                      |             |       |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------|-------|
| οἵς              | οὐδὲ          | πρὸς                 | ὥραν                  | εἴξαμεν              | τῇ         | ὑποταγῇ              | ἴνα         | ἢ     |
| <b>To whom</b>   | <b>no not</b> | <b>for</b>           | <b>an hour</b>        | <b>we gave place</b> | G3588      | <b>by subjection</b> | <b>that</b> | G3588 |
| G3739            | G3761         | G4314                | G5610                 | G1502                |            | G5292                | G2443       |       |
| ἀλήθεια          | τοῦ           | εὐαγγελίου           | διαμείνῃ              | πρὸς                 | ὑμᾶς       |                      |             |       |
| <b>the truth</b> | G3588         | <b>of the gospel</b> | <b>might continue</b> | <b>for</b>           | <b>you</b> |                      |             |       |
| G225             |               | G2098                | G1265                 | G4314                | G5209      |                      |             |       |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Galatians 4:16** (Truth): Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

**Galatians 2:14** (Truth): 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?

**Colossians 1:5** (Truth): For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

**Ephesians 1:13** (Truth): In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

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