

A CONFLICT OVER THE COVENANT.

❖ THE OLD COVENANT:

- Great promises: A better life in return for obedience.
Leviticus 18:5.

❖ THE NEW COVENANT:

- Better promises: Salvation by faith only through Jesus' blood.
Romans 5:9.

- ❖ The Old Covenant was expressed relative to blessings or curses whether the law was observed or not. It was like that because of the hardness of their hearts (Mark 10:5), but they received salvation only by their faith in the Lamb of God, who was going to die for them.

B CONFLICT OVER THE LAW.

- ❖ Jewish Christians wanted the Gentile Christians to keep the Law passed on by Moses (and the pharisaic tradition).

❖ God ordered several kinds of laws in the Old Testament:

- Moral law. For example: The 10 commandments.
- Ceremonial law. For example: Animal sacrifices.
- Civil law. Ejemplo: For example: Don't modifying the boundaries of fields.
- Health law. For example: Quarantine.
- Various laws. For example: Leaving the leftovers on the fields for the poor.

- ❖ Which of those laws must we observe as believers? Why?

C CONFLICT OVER SALVATION.

- ❖ The Pharisees thought that salvation could not be gained without observing strictly the law. Acts 15:1.

- ❖ In Romans, Paul wanted to make clear that salvation is a free gift that God gives to those who believe in Jesus' expiatory sacrifice.

D RESOLVING CONFLICTS.

- ❖ The conflict over observing the Jewish law and tradition could have destroyed the church, but thanks to the Holy Spirit it was resolved in a wonderful way (Acts 15).

- ❖ Although Jewish believers weren't to impose their rules and traditions on Gentiles, the council wanted to make sure that the Gentiles didn't do things that would have been deemed offensive to the Jews who were united with them in Jesus.

E AVOIDING COMING CONFLICTS.

- ❖ Despite the conclusion of the assembly of Jerusalem, some teachers kept insisting and creating great problems in some churches.

- ❖ Paul fought those movements in Galatians and Romans, teaching them to withstand those errors.