

CHURCH CRISES: DANGEROUS OPPORTUNITIES! / Acts 15:31

The Chinese word for “crisis” consists of two letters: one means “danger” and the other means “opportunity.” Indeed, every church crisis involves a dangerous opportunity to bring either great glory or great shame to the name of Christ. Acts 15 is a good example of this truth.

Dangerous Opportunity?	How Seen in Acts 15?	The Root of the Danger?	How to Avoid the Danger and Seize the Opportunity	How the Situation Can Glorify God if Properly Handled
Disputes over doctrine	Judaizers wanted Gentile converts to be circumcised and to keep Mosaic law.	Presuppositions	Submit to the Word of God (rather than our own opinions).	Purity
Diversity in membership	Those from Jewish backgrounds (tending toward legalism) were in the same body with those from pagan back-grounds (tending toward license).	Prejudice	Submit to one another in love (rather than segregate from one another in suspicion).	Unity
Decisions by authority	Some Judaizers did not submit to decision by Jerusalem council; they defiantly continued their divisive campaign of deception and distortion (as seen in later epistles, such as Titus 1:10).	Pride	Submit to God-appointed leadership (rather than demanding and advancing our own agenda).	Humility