

Reputation

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I. Introduction.

A. We face identity tests in the wilderness and must remember that we are God's children in Christ. (Luke 4, Ephesians 1:1-14)

B. In the "synagogue," the issue is reputation.

C. Text: Luke 4:14-30.

II. Jesus made a choice in the synagogue that caused His reputation to take a hit.

A. Jesus taught that the implication of the prophecy of Isaiah is that the grace of God extends to women and Gentiles amidst a Jewish audience that would have been offended.

B. Jesus' intent was to demonstrate that God's grace was intended for all the nations.

C. The grace of God is a nonnegotiable doctrine here. Some convictions are not worth standing so firm upon.

D. The Jews were threatened and did not read the Scriptures by faith.

Application questions:

1. When reputation comes into play, why is it important to make a distinction between doctrine and personal convictions?

2. What are some other doctrines worth standing your ground on? Explain.

3. When have you been in a position that called you to stand your ground? What did you learn?
