

Spiting in the Lords house

Galatians 2:19-21

False teachers known as **Judaizers**’ tried to impose **ceremonial laws** upon the churches in Galatia--circumcision, Sabbath keeping, dietary rules, Mosaic system of laws for **justification**.

They accused Paul of easy believism & compromise. His preaching of justification by **grace alone** thru **faith alone, in Christ alone** w/o any rules or regulations to secure salvation & keep a person saved was giving permission to sin.

If all I have to do is believe in Jesus dying on the cross for my sins & God, **out of His goodness** forgives me of all my sins & terrible things I’ve done & is willing to take me to heaven to be w/ Him when I die, **where is the incentive** to **be good**, to **be holy**, to follow God?

If Salvation is by simple faith & nothing else, that kind of teaching, **these Judaizers reasoned**, gives a **green light** to live anyway I want. A person can practice sin & say I’m saved because I believe.

A **Bank robber** believes & continues to rob banks—so he’s a Christian bank robber. Or an **adulterer** believes & continues committing adultery—so are they now a Christian adulterer? The doctrine of Antinomianism. It is human logic but divine illogic.

To practice sin after being saved does not mean God is the author of sin or He is approving it, or the gospel is powerless to deal w/ habits of sin. **Reality check:** it’s my fault, I’m the one tempted & choosing sin over the new life in Christ.

Paul would say it’s crazy to say justification by faith encourages a **loose lifestyle**. You don’t understand the nature of justification. When a person is saved by faith in Christ, God not only changes their status in heaven-declared just-right before God ***just as if I’d never sinned***

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He also changes their want to's. They become, **here & now**, what God has made them **there & then** in heaven—*right relation w/ God*

To the legalist it's a great dilemma, how a new Christian can do the right thing & keep away from wrong things if they don't have a list of do's & don'ts--rules & regulations. **H.A. Ironside**

Some years ago, I had a little school for young Indian men & women, who came to my home in Oakland, California from the various tribes in northern Arizona. One of these was a Navajo young man of *unusually keen intelligence*. One Sunday evening, he went w/ me to our young people's meeting. They were talking about the epistle to the Galatians & the special subject was law & grace. They were not very clear about it & finally one turned to the Indian & said, *'I wonder whether our Indian friend has anything to say about this'*. He rose to his feet & said, 'Well, my friends, I have been listening very carefully, because I am here to learn all I can in order to take it back to my people. I do not understand all that you are talking about & I do not think you do yourselves. But concerning this law & grace business let me see if I can make it clear. I think it is like this. When Mr. Ironside brought me from my home we took the longest railroad journey I ever took. We got out at Barstow, & there I saw men had spitted there, & before I think what I am doing I have spitted myself. Isn't that strange when the sign says, ***'Do not spit here'?***

I come to Oakland & go to the home of the lady who invited me to dinner today & I am in the nicest home I have been in. Such beautiful furniture & carpets, I hate to step on them. I sank into a comfortable chair & the lady said, *'Now, John, you sit there while I go out & see whether the maid has dinner ready.'* I look around at the beautiful pictures, at the grand piano, & I walk all around those rooms. I am looking for a sign; & the sign I am looking for is ***'Do not spit here'*** but I look around those two beautiful drawing rooms & cannot find a sign like this. I think 'What a pity when this is such a beautiful home to have people spitting all over it—too bad they don't put up a sign!' So I look all over that carpet but cannot find that anybody spitted. Where there was no sign at all, in that beautiful home, nobody spitted. Now I understand! That sign is law, but inside the home it is grace. They love their beautiful home, & they want to keep it clean. They do not need a sign to tell them so. I think that explains the law & grace business.

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Gal 2:19-21 "For through the Law I died to the Law, that I might live to God.

20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

21 "I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Keeping the Law is exasperating--it demands all my attention, saps all my strength, and proves me **unworthy** and **guilty**. It is a killer of all my high ideals & expectations for holiness—I'm too weak to keep it. **Ever played dodge ball?**—like law for salvation—focus on me & ball, where & when it's coming, getting hit, no time out--**exhausting** to live trying not to get hit w/ the ball. It is tiring trying to live a life w/o blame by keeping laws. Law intended to blame me when I fail, not make me righteous.

If I'm guilty in one part of the law, guilty of whole—**in deed & thought**—so always in violation, always guilty, always condemned. My flesh & law are like **oil/water, wax/glue**. They don't mix or stick together. It is impossible to be right w/ God by works of Law because the flesh rebels & can't keep it. Makes me live in a perpetual state of guilt & condemnation. Paul says ***I was once alive apart from the law but when the commandment came in I died.***

Jesus took my old life w/ Him to the cross & He paid my penalty, debt—'**wages of sin is death**' '**the soul that sins shall surely die**' So if I died w/ Christ, the dead don't get **angry**, dead women don't **gossip** or **listen to gossip**, dead men don't **covet** or **lust**, or **envy**. Dead people don't feel **condemnation**

In place of our old sinful nature, which was crucified w/ Christ, comes a new life raised w/ Christ--**a spiritual life**. Before salvation our body appetites were uppermost—Body, soul, spirit (dormant & dead).

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Now w/ Christ in me, I am born again, of the spirit--spiritual part of me is alive, quickened, I am now spirit, soul & body.

20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

Crucified w/ Christ – Rom 6:6 knowing this, that our old self (*old man KJ*) was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with (*kat-arg-eh'-o*), that we should no longer be slaves to sin;

First we are to '*know*' – a fact in heaven, *we have been crucified w/ Christ that body of sin be done away with* -- *katargeo*—put out of business, abolished, deprive of power, unemployed, severed.

Prohibition 20's-Feds smashed stills (producers of)---Sugar Co. Mills shut down—in Puunene, Maui, final shipment of sugar from Hawaii in December 2016 w/ 375 employees laid off.

Old man KJ the old self can't please God or keep commandments, but instead practices sin--old nature does what comes natural-*Pig/Sally*

No longer I who live (old nature), but Christ lives in me and this new life I live in flesh I live by faith in Son of God. No longer am I the one making efforts to please God by keeping rules—to keep sin out & Christ in-but eyes off self & on Jesus. By faith. *Illus-Submarine-fish-both in water-only water in fish Greater is He who is in you..*

But you say, *Bill I still have these sinful tendencies, fleshly desires, it doesn't seem like my sinful nature has been crucified*. Well it has!

Now it's required of you to believe the fact. **Rom 6:11 Even so consider (*reckon*) yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus**. Accounting term, to calculate, take inventory & put it to your account.

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Account to your life--have faith that the old sin nature is actually out of business, power cord severed, machinery dismantled. Put this fact to your lifes account. Tax refund-you claim what is yours. Take action of faith that the sin nature unplugged. *Plug pulled—Greg Noll-sander*

Life I now live, I live by faith... New life lived—practical living--**2 Cor 5:17** ***Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.***

New life is real & practical -- **Rom 6:12-13** ***Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.***

Key is to see ourselves in Christ—His life in us--the new life. Not to dwell on what He put out of business-old sin nature-what we were before Christ saved us. *Phantom guilt--pain-phantom limb--Tripler*

Abiding in Christ is key **John 15:4-5** ***"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.***

Never see yourself outside of Christ. ***I can do all things thru Christ who strengthens me.*** Does it mean I'll never sin again? No! I don't try to sin but I do. We are not in our glorified bodies yet-we live in a sin-polluted world. Just as we need showers each day because it's a dirty world, we need spiritual cleansing because the world is polluted by sin.

Luther Faith connects you so intimately with Christ, that He and you become as it were one person. As such you may boldly say: 'I am now one with Christ. Therefore Christ's righteousness, victory, and life are mine.' On the other hand, Christ may say: 'I am that big sinner. His sins and death are mine, because he is joined to me, and I to him.'

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Abraham is proof that God declares people righteous by faith apart from the law. He declared him righteous 430 years before the law was given.

Did Abraham fail tho righteous? Did he sin? A bad witness at times? Yes! Not because he wanted to but because he was a sinner saved by grace & had a flawed nature yet God declared him righteous.

Lied about Sarah being his sister – **Gen 12:13; 20:2**-**Twice**-Pressured to help God out took Hagar Sarah's hand maid hoping to speed up God's promise of a son--out of which came Ishmael & the Arab nations & Mid-East conflict ever since.

21 "I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Works nullify grace, Paul says I will never do that. Those who do divorce grace & marry legalism which will not save. Adding rules for righteousness to what Christ has already done is to **spit in the Lord's house**. Jesus declared *it is finished* & to saw we can make salvation even better by adding some conditions is to spite in God's house.

Martin Luther asked "Did the Law ever love me? Did the Law ever sacrifice itself for me? Did the Law ever die for me? On the contrary, it accuses me, it frightens me, it drives me crazy. Somebody else saved me from the Law, from sin and death unto eternal life. That Somebody is the Son of God, to whom be praise and glory forever."

I don't want to spite in the Lords house--not because there's a sign but because I love the Lord and I love His house.