

The Congregation Pt23

The Dangers Of Legalism Pt1

EXODUS 3:7-8

7. And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;
8. And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

AT KADESH BARNEA [56-0527]

I want you to notice this beautiful picture. And this would be good for legalists. Listen. God never come down and said, "Now, if you'll do certain things, if you'll do certain things." God's grace provided a saviour, Moses. That's right. **Not under any conditions** was Moses brought, **but by sovereign grace** God sent Moses. Not only a saviour, but grace provided a deliverer, without any law, without anything. Just solemn grace of God, He sent down Moses to be a--a deliverer and a saviour of the nation, to bring them out.

GENESIS 15:12-14

12. And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him. 13. And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; 14. And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

GENESIS 15:18-21

18. In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:
19. The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,
20. And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,
21. And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

HEBREWS SEVEN PT2 [57-0922E]

Now listen, legalist friend. See, God took Abraham completely out of the picture, nothing at all he had to do into it. And **that's the way He got you.**

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

8. **For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:** 9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

GENESIS 20:7 [NB note: Abraham in Gerar re Abimelech] Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.

FAITH [56-0815]

And Abraham was called by the grace and by election. And when he was called--when he was received his call, **he was given the covenant of God, not because he was a good man; but it was given unconditionally to him.**

Now, this is going to hurt legalist believers just a little bit now. I don't mean to pinch, but we want to know the truth. See? **There's nothing that a man can do to save himself.** You are already saved by grace. That's right. You can't stop eating meat; you can't stop doing this; you can't stop. There's nothing you can do. Christ saves you and that alone. And that's right. **You can't even come to Him unless He chooses you first.**

GENESIS 3:7-8

7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and **they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.**

8. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

HEAR YE HIM [57-0310E]

Oh, we don't want justice. Would you dare to say that you want justice? Would you dare to try to go to heaven on your own keeping of laws and legalistic things you'd do? If that was all right, Christ died in vain. **The law is not a remedy;** a law is the magnifying glass to show you sin. It's the one who can put you in prison; it's the law. But **it has no redemption in it.**

HEAR YE HIM [56-0611]

Now, who could be saved by the law? No one could be saved by the law. The law didn't come to save us. The law was to magnify our sins, to point them out to us. And listen, to you legalist believers, I want to ask you something: **There's not one thing you can do to be saved in yourself.** No sir. **You are saved by grace and that alone, and you have nothing to do with it.** God chose you in Christ before the foundation of the world. That's right.

THE PERFECTION [57-0419]

If there is anything that I can do to make myself perfect in the Presence of God, then Christ did not have to die for me. **If there's one thing that you can do that would merit anything in the Presence of God, then Christ died in vain.** No law-keeping, no legalistic ideas of yours, none of your own holiness, no things that you could quit doing: quit lying, quit stealing, quit smoking tobacco, quit going to the picture shows, still you are lost. **Nothing can do it.** Joining churches, rituals, ceremonies, baptisms, orders of the church, reading of creeds, saying of prayers, all those things would count nothing. You are lost. Not one thing can you do in yourself, for you are a sinner under condemnation. And there's not no way within yourself, or any creed, or anything that you could do, or think of of yourself, that could merit one thing in the Presence of God, because you are a sinner to start with.

THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE [56-0603]

Now, this will kinda put a little kink in the legalist. But notice, **it isn't what you do; it's what God has done.** It's not what you do; it's what He done. See? You can't be perfect. You can't be in yourself. But in Christ, you are perfected. You're not trusting in your own good works, or your own church you belong to, but **you're trusting in the shed Blood of the Lord Jesus.** There you are. That's what makes you perfect. There's what anchors your faith.

JOHN 8:3-6

3. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,
4. They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.
5. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? 6. This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

THE 70TH WEEK OF DANIEL [61-0806]

The greatest criticism I have on tapes, of my brethren out in the different parts of the world, **is believing in the grace of God--that I teach the way I do--that we were predestinated before the beginning of the world.**

My Pentecostal brethren, of course I know that your views are legalist (See?), and I--I know it's a little upsetting to your views, but would you as a Christian brother, would you just give it enough consideration to get on your knees before God with your Bible and ask God to explain it to you? Would you do that? **Would you take the legalistic point and try to make it connect from Genesis to Revelation?**