

The Congregation Pt24

The Dangers Of Legalism Pt2

MATTHEW 17:3-5

3. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.
4. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.
5. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

HEAR YE HIM [58-0209A]

Did you notice? And while He spake these words, a voice came from heaven, said, "This is My beloved Son; hear ye Him. Turn your head away from Moses, Sabbatarians and law-keepers. Turn away from the prophets in the--the Old Testament and the justice of God."

Moses, represented the law. No man can be saved by the law. Everything that you do, legally, that's legalistic. You can't do nothing to save yourself; it takes the grace of God to save you. No matter what you do, you're doing it in yourself; it doesn't have nothing to do with it. It won't be long till you'll be just like... That's what happened to the church.

You say, "I'll let my hair grow long, Brother Branham. I want to look like a Christian." If that isn't coming from the inside, it'll soon rub out again. Certainly it will. You get that "holier-than-thou" attitude. That's wrong. But if the Spirit of Christ comes in, It'll actually bring forth new life. Then it's not nothing legally. It's something that's in your heart, that sprouts forth these things.

ABRAHAM AND HIS SEED AFTER HIM [61-0423]

"There's Moses, I talked to Moses; there's the law; there's the prophets; but this is My Son": the law of adoption. Oh, sabbath-keepers and legalists, what's the matter with you? "Here's My Son; hear ye Him."

PERFECTION [56-0610]

And the legalist got a hold of this idea, "Hallelujah, I'll wear my dresses down this a way and my dresses down this a way. I'll let my hair grow long, and I'll be all right." That's a lie.

And they point back to the woman with short hair and with short dresses and say, "She's going to hell." I can't say that, yet I think those things are all right. I'm not condemning them, but **when you rest your eternal hopes and salvation upon that doctrine, you are damned with it.**

A man or woman, it doesn't matter whether you're this, that, or the other, you come to the fountain filled with Blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins, and let the purgative of the Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ purge your sins.

Brother, it won't matter if you can still have dresses so long. You could still not wear short sleeves shirts, you men, and those things, or whatever you want to; but if you still got malice, and envy, and strife, you might've run, danced, spoke in tongues, shouted, preached the Gospel, or anything. But **you're lost until that Blood has cleansed you** and set in a Divine love of the Lord Jesus Christ in your heart, in your life speaks of Christ behind you. Amen.

HEBREWS SEVEN PT1 [57-0915E]

Then you say, "Well, Brother Branham, I've always thought I had to do this and I had to do that." **There's** such a--**such a difference in it**, brother, **what you have to do and what you want to do.** You are saved, not because you had one thing to do with it. You're saved because that God saved you before the foundation of the world.

ABRAHAM'S COVENANT CONFIRMED [61-0210]

God means for people to live by grace, not by law. We get so legalistic, till, "Well, it'd be wrong for me to smoke. It'd be wrong for me to run around on my wife." It's love, brother. Not because... **If you love your God, you won't do any evil thing, 'cause you love Him too much.** Not because I oughtn't to do it, I oughtn't to do it. It's because **you love Him so much you don't want to do it.**

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS [62-0527]

Oh, there's so much of this legalism today, the "*touch not, taste not.*" You don't do things legally. I didn't come to this church tonight legally. I feel tired; I--I--I've been nervous; I'm upset; I'm wondering about something that's out before me; my heart's burning, even as such as much till my heart's fluttering. I got a cramp, pain, right at this minute, just shooting back and forth, up and down through here; weak, nervous, trembly; catch a hold here and squeeze; got my toes squeezed up in my shoes. I felt anything but come down here. Why did I come, then? Because I love God. Live or die, I must stand here for Him. It's not because I have to. He wouldn't care about whether I did or not. I'd--If I'd die I'd go to heaven anyhow. But **I'm coming because I love Him.** **You serve God because you love Him,** not because you just got to do it. Because you love Him enough...

HEBREWS SEVEN PT1 [57-0915E]

The law, the legalist, see, "Oh, you have to do this. If you don't do this, you're not a Christian. If you don't keep the sabbath! If you don't... If you eat meat! If you do these things!" All these legal ideas. "And you've got to go to church. If you don't, you pay a penalty for it. You have to do a novena." **That stuff is nonsense. You're saved by the grace of God, by the foreknowledge of God, by His predestination.**

TAKING SIDES WITH JESUS [62-0601]

See? Legalism. They say, "Well, I got to. You know, I--I--I stagger to church a long time. Cause, I tell you, I kept Sunday school for a full year, because my teacher said if they'd give a Bible to the one that didn't miss a day."

Now, brother, that's some way of going. I'd rather just go buy me a Bible. See? **If you don't go to church because you love the Lord, you might as well stay away.**

HEBREWS SEVEN PT2 [57-0922E]

Men and women can go to church and have the long face, and--and pious as they can be, and never lie, steal, and try to live their religion as best they can. But, unless they are a believer, they're lost. So **there's no scratch of legalists in the Bible.** Calvinism is... **Grace is what God did for you, and works is what you do for God. It's absolutely separated.**

If you quit lying, quit smoking, quit stealing, quit committing adultery, quit all, done everything, kept the commandments, and went to church, baptized every Sunday, took the communion, washed the feet of the saints, done everything, healed the sick, and done all these other things, **unless you're born of the Spirit of God, elected, you're lost.**

JEHOVAH JIREH [61-0209]

...it lasted on, that legalistic dispensation, until the real royal Seed come. Then **He taken all the legalism upon Himself, and paid the price of redemption, and God's Church is back in grace again.** Not under the law and legalism, it's under grace and the promise of God, the true Seed of Abraham. He taken the law upon Himself and the law nailed Him to the cross--of what we must do, and must not do, and must do, and must not do.

HAS THE LORD SPOKEN ONLY TO MOSES [53-1130]

I am a legalist, and I'm not a legalist; I--**I'm a Christian.**

THE DARKEST HOUR THEN JESUS COMES ALONG [55-1114]

See, I'm not much of a legalist. I--I believe that it's sovereign grace of God.