

Romans: The Crown Jewel of Salvation

53- “You’re Still Confused about God’s Law”

Romans 9:30 – 10:4

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / Oct. 11, 2015

I. You Just Might Not Think You *Need* to be Saved

II. You Might Already Be Caught Up In A Flurry of Religious Activities

III. You Might Not Be Willing to Swallow Your Self-Righteous Pride

IV. You Might Still be Deceived or Confused About Why God Gave Us the Law

Romans 9:31-32 “But Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness...”

In other words, they just kept on going down that path pursuing the law of righteousness. That’s what they knew and could relate to, so they just kept on doing what they understood best and what made sense to them.

- What about you? Have you been asking God to show you His way of salvation or have you been arguing and defending what you know best and what makes the most sense to you?

Some of us try to use God’s law to gain righteousness. Let’s look at three things God tells us about His law:

A. God Doesn’t Call Us to be Saved by the Law

When you try to use the law for salvation you’re trying to get it to do something it was never designed to do!

As our Creator, God knows exactly how He designed the law to be used! He gives us a lot of warning labels about how to use and not use the law. Any other use of it is going to injure or destroy your soul altogether!

God doesn’t try to be subtle, elusive, or metaphorical on any of this. He knows that we would miss it so He hits it head on in more than one place.

Romans 3:20 “Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

Galatians 2:16 “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ... for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.”

In those two verses God tells us what the law CAN and CANNOT do! What the law was meant to DO and NOT do.

The reason for all the confusion and misuse of the law lies in the heart of human beings. We’re the problem because we crave a system of works that can be tracked and qualified. Our sin nature drives us to participate in a SYSTEM rather than throw ourselves on the mercy of a SAVIOR!

Paul tells us that the law was never meant to lift us anywhere, but to lead us to Christ!

Galatians 3:21-25 “Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.”

The Law was a signpost pointing the way, but it could never get us to our ultimate destination. The Law can't give you righteousness; it only leads the sinner to the Savior who can give you righteousness.

Christ is your ultimate destination. That's what the law's been pointing to all along. The law should drive us to Christ because Christ is the goal of the law or the fulfillment of the law.

Romans 10:4 “For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

Christ brings an end to the law as a means of righteousness. The law still has a purpose, but don't dare let it take the place of Christ! The reign of the Law has ended!

B. God Doesn't Call Us to Just Keep Some of the Law

James 2:10 “For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.”

“Many think that the law of God is like a frame full of small window panes. They think that if they can get through life without breaking most of them, they will be alright.” *Persuasions*, Douglas Wilson, p. 19

The Bible teaches that the law of God is more like one giant plate glass window. It doesn't matter where the hole is; the window is still broken.

That's what God teaches us about the law. If you've broken one, you're guilty of all, because the whole thing collapses into your life exposing your great need for a Savior!

C. God Calls Us to a Personal Relationship with His Son Jesus Christ - *Who Already Kept the Law Perfectly on Our Behalf*

Romans 7:4 “Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be **married to another**, even to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.”

Galatians 2:16-21 “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build gain those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. For I am crucified with Christ; 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 gave Himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

With the law you can kill yourself trying to achieve a life, but with grace you can receive a life.

Trying to achieve a life makes you upset that you're never good enough, but receiving a life makes you grateful for what you've been given- the precious gift of righteousness from God through your Savior – Jesus Christ.