

Combatting Legalism

Matthew 14:34-15:20

Main Point:

Combat your legalistic tendencies by remembering the finished work of Jesus on your behalf.

1. You and I naturally tend toward legalism.

2. Legalism gets you nowhere with God.

3. Only Jesus Christ makes you right with God.

4. Combat your legalistic tendencies by remembering the finished work of Jesus on your behalf.

Alan Cairns “[Legalism is] the dogma of salvation by works, the heresy that man must earn a place in heaven by his personal righteousness.”

Dan Doriani “By nature we all have an appetite for legalism ... to seek God’s favor through rule-keeping.”

Mark Ross “Outwardly they look very pious, but in reality it is pious hypocrisy. Such religion finds no acceptance with God ...”

Romans 3:20 ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight ... (ESV)

Philippians 3:8-9 ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; (NKJV)

Jeremy Walker “There is always more to be found, always more worth finding.”