

BOOK OF GALATIANS  
WHERE IS THE PROOF? – PART 3  
PROOF IN WHAT THE LAW DOES!  
GALATIANS 3:10-14

**Introduction**

We've been seeing that **there were these false teachers who had infiltrated the Churches of Galatia**. They were **erroneously teaching a salvation that was based on a mix of faith in Christ plus works of the law**. These false teachers believed that a man must focus his life upon the rituals and teachings of religion—that is, upon the works of the law—instead of just focusing upon Christ!

Simply stated, **they were teaching that trusting Christ alone was NOT enough for a man to be acceptable before God, but rather that he also had to submit himself to the rituals of the law (including circumcision) and give his life to keeping the law in order to be acceptable to God.**

Thus far in this Chapter, we have seen two things to prove that Salvation is by grace through faith apart from any works of the law!:

- 1) **The Believer's salvation experience in Christ proves that Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ alone!**
- 2) **Abraham's salvation proves that Salvation is by grace through faith!**

This morning I want us to look at Paul's third proof that salvation is by grace through faith apart from the law.

**THE PROOF IS FOUND IN WHAT THE LAW DOES!  
SCRIPTURE SAYS THE LAW PUTS A MAN UNDER THE CURSE OF THE LAW! (v. 10-12)**

Now here is a critical point. In this *verse 10* the word "*curse*" means "*to be condemned and doomed to punishment by the righteous judgment of God.*"

How do we know this? By *Galatians 3:13* where it is says that "*Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.*" (i.e. He bore the condemnation, doom, death, and punishment that was due us for having broken God's law!)

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The law carries with it a *curse*.

*Deuteronomy 27:26 Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.*

*James 2:10 10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*

A person either keeps the law or else he is *cursed!* That is, he is to stand before the Judge and bear the punishment as a lawbreaker.

The *curse* (penalty or punishment) for violating the law is "*the ministration (i.e. service) of death*"! That is what Paul calls the law in *2 Corinthians 3:7* "*But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious...*"

*2 Corinthians 3:9 For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.*

*Romans 6:12—"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord"*

*Romans 7:10-11—"And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. 11 For sin, taking occasion (an opportunity) by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me."*

**THE BOTTOM LINE: THE MAN WHO CHOOSES TO APPROACH GOD BY THE LAW IS CURSED BECAUSE HE DOES NOT AND CANNOT KEEP THE WHOLE LAW!**

**I. THERE IS A RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT IS OF THE LAW!  
(Vs 12)**

*Romans 10:5—"For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them."*

The **righteousness that is of the law** promises life to **any person who can obey the law perfectly!**

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If a person can meet **every requirement of the law** during their lifetime and **never once** fall below God's holy standard, then that person can escape the penalty for sin, which is death!

However, every thinking and honest person **knows that they cannot keep the law of God in every single detail—not all the time!** If fact, as we read God's law we stand condemned before it because we know that **we already have come short of the righteousness of the law!**

*Turn to Romans 3:10-12*

**A. We Stand Condemned Because Of Our BEHAVIOR!**  
*Romans 3:10 – “There is none **righteous**, no, not one:...”*  
**To be RIGHTEOUS is to manifest HOLINESS in one's life!**

**B. We Stand Condemned Because Of Our WORSHIP!**  
*Romans 3:11– “There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.”*

*“understandeth” = “to put together; to comprehend.”*  
(i.e. Man just doesn't get it!)

*“seeketh after” = “to earnestly, diligently search out”*  
Man left to himself comes to God and worships God in his own way, not in the way that God would have him to!

*Romans 3:12a – “They are all **gone out of the way**...”*

*“gone out of the way” = “to deviate; to shun; to decline from”*  
It is the attitude of “I ain't doing that!”

*Romans 3:12b – “...they are together **become unprofitable**.”*

*“become unprofitable” = “to render useless; spoiled.”*

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*“That's worthless!” Or “That isn't any good!” Or “Whew, that is spoiled!”*

Useless...good for nothing...putrid! **That is what sin has made us in the sight of God!**

*We Stand Condemned Because Of Our Behavior...Worship...*  
**C. We Stand Condemned Because Of Our SERVICE!**  
*Romans 3:12c – “...there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”*

People go about “*doing good*” and “*doing things for God*.” But apart from the Righteousness of God—Jesus Christ—being in their life, ALL of what they do is tainted by sin and is, in reality, NOT GOOD in the sight of God!

*Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all as **an unclean thing**, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;...”*

*“unclean thing” = “foul in a religious sense” (e.g. leprosy)*  
*“righteousnesses” = “rightness or righteous acts”*  
*“filthy rags” = “rags used to catch a woman's monthly flow”*

Listen to me, EVERY THINKING and HONEST person knows that they are NOWHERE EVEN CLOSE to being perfect nor to attaining perfection personally! (Not in their PAST, not in their PRESENT, and, apart from God's grace in Christ Jesus, not in the FUTURE!) It is an impossibility with us!

*Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”*

*John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

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We ALL know (or should know) that we MISS THE MARK and COME SHORT of the Laws requirements ALL THE TIME! Amen?!

There is not a one of us who can continue in and do all the things which are written in the Law of God! And that is what it takes if you seek to be justified by the Law!

*Romans 10:5—"For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them."*

*THERE IS A RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT IS OF THE LAW!*

II. **THERE IS A RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT COMES BY FAITH!**  
**God's alternative to the righteousness of the Law is for us to "Live By Faith." (Vs 11)**

Scripture **repeatedly** declares (as clearly as it can) that **NO MAN is justified by the law in the sight of God!** And yet there are still many folks that **JUST DON'T GET IT!**

*Galatians 2:16*

*Habakkuk 2:4 — "...but the just shall live by his faith."*

*Romans 1:17 – "as it is written, The just shall live by faith."*

*Hebrews 10:38– "Now the just shall live by faith:"*

God is **PERFECT** and He is **PERFECTLY RIGHTEOUS!** No man can even begin to attain unto that **perfection!** Therefore, **no man can live in the presence of God based on the righteousness that is of the Law!**

No matter **how good we are** or **how much good we do**, we cannot **achieve perfection!** That is a **FACT** that is **EVIDENT!** (Just think about it! Do you know any perfect people?)

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**There is ONLY ONE MAN Who ever lived perfectly under the Law of God—The God-Man, The Lord Jesus Christ!**

In **Romans 1:16-17**, the Apostle Paul says that **the righteousness of God is revealed** in the Gospel of Christ! (**Turn there!**)

*Romans 1:16-17 "16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17 For **therein** [i.e. the Gospel of Christ] **is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith:** as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.***

The word **"revealed"** means **"to take off the cover; to disclose."**

In **Romans 10:3**, the Apostle Paul calls the Lord Jesus Christ, **"God's righteousness."** (**Turn there!**)

*Romans 10:3 For they (i.e. the Jews) being ignorant of **God's righteousness**, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto **the righteousness of God.***

In our Adult Sunday School right now we are looking at God's nature—specifically right now we're dealing with **His moral nature!**

**God is Holy!** That is His nature! (Last week!)

**God is Righteous!** That is His nature! (This morning!)

**God is Just!** That is also His nature! (This morning also!)

**God is Love!** Oh how thankful we need to be that is also His nature!

Because **God is Holy, Righteous, and Just**, He cannot just overlook our sin! Because **God is Love**, He made a way for our sin debt to be paid—**Christ was "made a curse for us!"**

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*Galatians 3:13 “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:”*

*2 Corinthians 5:21– “For he [speaking of God] hath made him [speaking of Jesus Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin;...”*

And God made a way for us to have **His Righteousness (i.e. The Righteousness of Christ)** applied to our account so that we are able to live in His presence! Again, this was accomplished **through the Gospel of Christ!**

*2 Corinthians 5:21–“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him [i.e. in Jesus Christ].”*

What God does is that **He takes our FAITH** in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ on our behalf—the **Gospel**, and counts that **FAITH as RIGHTEOUSNESS on our account!**

Therefore, **a man is able to live in God's presence by GOD'S GRACE in providing JUSTIFICATION THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE!**

**The point is that GOD'S WAY for a man to approach Him is by the way of FAITH: “The just shall live by faith.”**

But we need to note also that *the law is NOT of faith (Vs 12)*, but any man who attempts to *live by the law he shall be judged by the law!* And that does not end well!

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*Romans 3:19-20– “19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”*

**Conclusion**

Where do you stand before God today?

You either stand **CONDEMNED** under the **LAW** because of your **SIN!**

Or, by **GOD'S GREAT GRACE** you stand **JUSTIFIED** by your **FAITH** in God's Provision for you—**THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD** in the person of **HIS DEAR SON, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST** Who died in our place!

**SALVATION IS BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE!**  
**Romans 8:3 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:**