

Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

What does it mean that we died to the Law?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

When we lean on our own righteousness, what does that say about our viewpoint about the cross (21)?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

Since we died to the Law, does that make the Law bad (Rom. 7:12)?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

What motivation does Paul give us to cling to Christ (20)?

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Psalm 51:1-9

Song #242 ~ Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Prayer

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 25:1-28

Song #27 ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 26:1-23

Prayer

Sermon ~ Galatians 2:19-21

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #337 ~ My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

Galatians 3:8

The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the Gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, all the nations will be blessed in you.

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Text: Galatians 2:19-21

Theme: Justification is by faith apart from the works of the Law.

Introduction: In our text, Paul makes a stunning contrast—"I died to the Law so that I might live to God" (19). Paul is identifying a problem with the Jewish community that came to Antioch and influenced Peter to withdraw from the Gentiles (12) and the distorters in Galatia who were requiring circumcision (1:7; cf. 5:2). Until we correctly understand our relationship to the Law, we will continue to struggle with the same form of legalism that was prevalent in Galatia.

- I) I died to the Law because I am crucified with Christ (19-21; cf. Rom. 7:4).
 - A. I died to the Law so that I might live to God (19-20).
 1. What does Paul mean when he says that he died to the Law? The Law brings a curse to everyone who is under the Law (3:10). But Christ bore the curse of the Law, which is death, by hanging on a pole (3:13).
 2. So, in what sense was our death to the Law "through the Law"? We, like Christ were born "under the Law" (Gal. 4:4-5). Therefore, Christ, who was born "under the Law" was able to free us by taking the curse of the Law on our behalf (Gal. 3:13). Specifically, we died to the Law through the body of Christ because of His death on the cross (Rom. 7:4).
 3. The result of dying to the Law is not lawlessness, but rather, living to God (19-20). So, instead of obeying God out of obligation, we now obey God because He loves us and gave Himself for us (20).

4. Paul further illustrates our relationship to the Law in Romans 7:1-3 by the marriage relationship. The woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives (7:2). But when the spouse dies, she is released from the marriage covenant (7:2). In a similar way, we are released from the Law at the death of Christ (7:4-6) because we are united with Him.

- B. When you continue to cling to the Law, you are saying that Christ's death was not necessary (21)
 1. Calvin put it this way, "If we do not renounce all other hopes, and embrace Christ alone, we reject the grace of God.
 2. Justification by faith alone often leads to one of two ditches. It often leads to lawlessness or legalism. In fact, when Paul explains the doctrine of justification in Romans 4-5, he follows it up with this question, "should we continue in sin" (Rom. 6:1). Then, he follows that chapter up with our relationship to the Law (Rom. 7). If you cannot see both ditches from where your standing, you're likely in one of those ditches.

Conclusion: Can you say with the Apostle Paul that you died to the Law? Now, for most of us, the Law was not a big part of our life prior to salvation. Our problem is that after salvation, instead of believing in the finished work of Christ for salvation, we cling to our own obedience to God's commands for our salvation. Let us cling to Christ alone.