

## CHRIST'S SACRIFICE: GOOD FOR ALL TIME

### I. Hebrews 10:1-14

**A. The last few Sundays we've learned a little bit about the Tabernacle and the Temple. We know these places of worship were instituted by God through Moses and with very specific instructions. We know that animal sacrifices took place here for the atonement of sins. But we also know that even though God ordered this to take place, these were inadequate sacrifices. They were acts of obedience, rendered in faith, but merely pointing forward to the One & Only Sacrificial Lamb...**

**B. God's Law was perfect. We must always remember that. But it was limited in that it could only point out our sin, it was unable to save us from it. When false teachers infiltrated the church in Galatia (Judaizers), trying to make them first be keepers of the law before they became followers of Christ, Paul wrote them the sternest of letters. Before we get to our main text, let's have a crash course in Galatians. We may fall short of Martin Luther but perhaps God will shine His light mercifully...**

**1) Galatians 1:6-9 (ESV) is right out of the gate: *6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel-- 7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. (Such incredibly strong words! **Accursed means damned!**)***

**2) Galatians 2:15-16 (ESV) is from the former Pharisee and Jewish all star: *15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; 16 yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified (**Declared not guilty! Declared righteous!**) by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.***

**3) Galatians 3:1-3 (ESV) says: *1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. 2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?***

**4) Galatians 3:19 (ESV) *19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the Offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. **Hear it in the NLT: 19 Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the Child (Offspring; Seed) who was promised. God gave His law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people.*****

**5) Galatians 4:4-7 (ESV) is the best of summaries: *4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.***

**C. Besides all the OT prophecies about the Messiah, it's full of what we call shadows and types--all pointing to Jesus. Like floodlights shining down on a field of play, all 66 books of the Bible, OT & NT, are shining upon Christ. The OT books shine forward, the NT books shine straight down. Hebrews 10 illuminates how the old covenant gives way to the new and better covenant. A covenant is a sacred agreement between those who love one another. God made His New Covenant with His people through the sacrifice of His Son. These verses prepare us for the Lord's Table as they reiterate all the reasons why we take the Bread & Cup...**

**D. Hebrews 10:1-14 (NLT) is our main text:** *1 The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship. 2 If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. 3 But instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. (cf Gal. 3:19) 4 For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. 5 That is why, when Christ came into the world, He said to God, (Quoting Psalm 40:6-8) "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But You have given Me a body to offer. 6 You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. 7 Then I said, 'Look, I have come to do Your will, O God--as is written about Me in the Scriptures.'" 8 First, Christ said, "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were You pleased with them" (though they are required by the law of Moses). 9 Then He said, "Look, I have come to do Your will." He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect. 10 For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time. (The Bread & Cup remind us.) 11 Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. 12 But our High Priest offered Himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. (Christ Jesus was not only the High Priest making the sacrifice, He Himself was the sacrifice! The Bread & Cup remind us.) Then He sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. 13 There He waits until His enemies are humbled and made a footstool under His feet. 14 For by that one offering He forever made perfect those who are being made holy.*

**E. And like it says in Romans 8:1-4 (NLT):** *1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. 2 And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. 3 The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent His own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving His Son as a sacrifice for our sins. 4 He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit. (The Bread & Cup remind us.)*

**F. Martin Luther sums it up so well:** *"Although out of pure grace God does not impute our sins to us, He nonetheless did not want to do this until complete and ample satisfaction of His law and His righteousness had been made. Since this was impossible for us, God ordained for us, in our place, One who took upon Himself all the punishment we deserve. He fulfilled the law for us. He averted the judgment of God from us and appeased God's wrath. Grace, therefore, costs us nothing, but is cost Another much to get it for us. Grace was purchased with an incalculable, infinite treasure, the Son of God Himself." (The Bread & Cup remind us.)*

**\* Pray & Officiate Communion...**

**\* Benediction from Charles Wesley:**

He left His Father's throne above,  
So free, so infinite His grace;  
Emptied Himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race;  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
For, O my God, it found out me!  
Amazing love! How can it be?!  
That Thou, my God, should die for me!

## **Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff**

### **Hebrews 10:1-14 (NLT)**

**1** The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship. **2** If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. **3** But instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. **4** For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. **5** That is why, when Christ came into the world, He said to God, *“You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But You have given Me a body to offer.* **6** *You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin.* **7** *Then I said, ‘Look, I have come to do Your will, O God--as is written about Me in the Scriptures.’”* **8** First, Christ said, *“You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were You pleased with them”* (though they are required by the law of Moses). **9** Then He said, *“Look, I have come to do Your will.”* He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect. **10** For God’s will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time. **11** Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. **12** But our High Priest offered Himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then He sat down in the place of honor at God’s right hand. **13** There He waits until His enemies are humbled and made a footstool under His feet. **14** For by that one offering He forever made perfect those who are being made holy.

### **Galatians 1:6-9 (ESV)**

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to you, let him be accursed. **9** As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

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### **Romans 8:1-4 (NLT)**

**1** So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. **2** And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. **3** The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent His own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving His Son as a sacrifice for our sins. **4** He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

### **Quote by Martin Luther**

"Although out of pure grace God does not impute our sins to us, He nonetheless did not want to do this until complete and ample satisfaction of His law and His righteousness

had been made. Since this was impossible for us, God ordained for us, in our place, One who took upon Himself all the punishment we deserve. He fulfilled the law for us. He averted the judgment of God from us and appeased God's wrath. Grace, therefore, costs us nothing, but is cost Another much to get it for us. Grace was purchased with an incalculable, infinite treasure, the Son of God Himself."

## **Bonus Goodies**

**Justification by Faith Alone - John Piper**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAuAsPwQDeA>

**Justification by Faith Alone - R.C. Sproul (Ligonier Ministries)**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXwpPY\\_2bbs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXwpPY_2bbs)

**What is Justification by Faith? - 3 Minute Theology 3.8 (Three Minute Theology)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaZ9MollTgc>

**The Word Became Flesh and Tabernacled Among Us - Pastor Gene Giguere**

<https://harvestcommunity.net/the-word-became-flesh-and-tabernacled-among-us/>

**Deny Yourself and Attend Your Church's Prayer Meeting [ Vassel of the King**

<https://vassaloftheking.blogspot.com/2022/07/deny-yourself-and-attend-your-churchs.html>

## **More Verses, Quotes, Excerpts, & Extras**

### **Jeremiah 31:31-34 (ESV)**

**31** "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, **32** not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. **33** For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. **34** And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

### **Romans 3:21-28 (NLT)**

**21** But now God has shown us a way to be made right with Him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. **22** We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. **23** For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. **24** Yet God, in His grace, freely makes us right in His sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when He freed us from the penalty for our

sins. **25** For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed His life, shedding His blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when He held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, **26** for He was looking ahead and including them in what He would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate His righteousness, for He himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in His sight when they believe in Jesus. **27** Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. **28** So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

#### **Romans 6:12-14 (NLT)**

**12** Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. **13** Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. **14** Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

#### **Romans 7:7-12 (NLT)**

**7** Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet." **8** But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power. **9** At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life, **10** and I died. So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead. **11** Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me. **12** But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good.

#### **Romans 10:4 (AMP)**

**4** For Christ is the end of the law [it leads to Him and its purpose is fulfilled in Him], for [granting] righteousness to everyone who believes [in Him as Savior].

#### **Ephesians 2:8-10 (AMP)**

**8** For it is by grace [God's remarkable compassion and favor drawing you to Christ] that you have been saved [actually delivered from judgment and given eternal life] through faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [not through your own effort], but it is the [undeserved, gracious] gift of God; **9** not as a result of [your] works [nor your attempts to keep the Law], so that no one will [be able to] boast or take credit in any way [for his salvation]. **10** For we are His workmanship [His own master work, a work of art], created in Christ Jesus [reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, ready to be used] for good works, which God prepared [for us] beforehand [taking paths which He set], so that we would walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us].

### **Quote by Juan Carlos Ortiz**

"Watching a trapeze show is breathtaking. We wonder at the dexterity and timing. We gasp at near-misses. In most cases, there is a net underneath. When they fall, they jump up and bounce back to the trapeze. In Christ, we live on the trapeze. The whole world should be able to watch and say, "Look how they live, how they love one another. Look how well the husbands treat their wives. And aren't they the best workers in the factories and offices, the best neighbors, the best students?" That is to live on the trapeze, being a show to the world. What happens when we slip? The net is surely there. The blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, has provided forgiveness for ALL our trespasses. Both the net and the ability to stay on the trapeze are works of God's grace. Of course, we cannot be continually sleeping on the net., If that is the case, I doubt whether that person is a trapezist."

### **The Purpose of the Law**

Illustrations by Fred Brown

Evangelist Fred Brown used three images to describe the purpose of the law. First he likened it to a dentist's little mirror, which he sticks into the patient's mouth. With the mirror he can detect any cavities. But he doesn't drill with it or use it to pull teeth. It can show him the decayed area or other abnormality, but it can't provide the solution.

Brown then drew another analogy. He said that the law is also like a flashlight. If suddenly at night the lights go out, you use it to guide you down the darkened basement stairs to the electrical box. When you point it toward the fuses, it helps you see the one that is burned out. But after you've removed the bad fuse, you don't try to insert the flashlight in its place. You put in a new fuse to restore the electricity.

In his third image, Brown likened the law to a plumbline. When a builder wants to check his work, he uses a weighted string to see if it's true to the vertical. But if he finds that he has made a mistake, he doesn't use the plumbline to correct it. He gets out his hammer and saw. The law points out the problem of sin; it doesn't provide a solution.

### **Quote by John Calvin**

"Justification is the main hinge on which salvation turns."

### **Quote by William Gurnall**

"We are justified, not by giving anything to God, - what we do, - but by receiving from God, what Christ hath done for us."

### **Quote by A.C. Dixon**

"Justification is away beyond anything that a human court of justice ever realizes. It is putting the sinner in the condition before God as if he had never sinned at all. It is giving him a standing in the merit of Jesus Christ of absolute innocency before God."

### **Quote by Jerry Bridges**

"To be justified means more than to be declared "not guilty." It actually means to be declared righteous before God. It means God has imputed or charged the guilt of our sin to His Son, Jesus Christ, and has imputed or credited Christ's righteousness to us."

#### **Quote by John Piper**

"Justification goes beyond forgiveness. Not only are we forgiven because of Christ, but God also declares us righteous because of Christ. God requires two things of us: punishment for our sins and perfection in our lives. Our sins must be punished, and our lives must be righteous. But we cannot bear our own punishment (Ps. 49:7-8), and we cannot provide our own righteousness. "None is righteous; no, not one" (Rom. 3:10). Therefore, God, out of His immeasurable love for us, provided His own Son to do both. Christ bears our punishment, and Christ performs our righteousness. And when we receive Christ (John 1:12), all of His punishment and all of His righteousness is counted as ours (Rom. 4:4-6; 5:1, 19; 8:1; 10:4; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:8-9)."

#### **Quote by Richard Cecil**

"There are three things which the true Christian desires in respect to sin: Justification, that it may not condemn; Sanctification, that it may not rein; and Glorification, that it may not be."

#### **Quote by Charles Spurgeon**

"Any church which puts in the place of justification by faith in Christ another method of salvation is a harlot church."

#### **Two Husbands: One Law, the Other Grace**

Author Unknown

A husband and wife didn't really love each other. The man was very demanding, so much so that he prepared a list of rules and regulations for his wife to follow. He insisted that she read them over every day and obey them to the letter. Among other things, his "do's and don'ts" indicated such details as what time she had to get up in the morning, when his breakfast should be served, and how the housework should be done. After several long years, the husband died. As time passed, the woman fell in love with another man, one who dearly loved her. Soon they were married. This husband did everything he could to make his new wife happy, continually showering her with tokens of his appreciation. One day as he was cleaning house, she found tucked away in a drawer the list of commands her first husband had drawn up for her. As she looked it over, it dawned on her that even though her present husband hadn't given her any kind of list, she was doing everything her first husband's list required anyway. She realized she was so devoted to this man that her deepest desire was to please him out of love, not obligation.

#### **On Law & Grace**

H.A. Ironside

Some years ago, I had a little school for young Indian men and women, who came to my home in Oakland, California, from the various tribes in northern Arizona. One of these was a Navajo young man of unusually keen intelligence. One Sunday evening, he went with me to our young people's meeting. They were talking about the epistle to the Galatians, and the special subject was law and grace. They were not very clear about it, and finally one turned to the Indian and said, "I wonder whether our Indian friend has anything to say about this."

He rose to his feet and said, "Well, my friends, I have been listening very carefully, because I am here to learn all I can in order to take it back to my people. I do not understand all that you are talking about, and I do not think you do yourselves. But concerning this law and grace business, let me see if I can make it clear. I think it is like this. When Mr. Ironside brought me from my home we took the longest railroad journey I ever took. We got out at Barstow, and there I saw the most beautiful railroad station and hotel I have ever seen. I walked all around and saw at one end a sign, 'Do not spit here.' I looked at that sign and then looked down at the ground and saw many had spitted there, and before I think what I am doing I have spitted myself. Isn't that strange when the sign say, 'Do not spit here'?"

"I come to Oakland and go to the home of the lady who invited me to dinner today and I am in the nicest home I have been in. Such beautiful furniture and carpets, I hate to step on them. I sank into a comfortable chair, and the lady said, 'Now, John, you sit there while I go out and see whether the maid has dinner ready.' I look around at the beautiful pictures, at the grand piano, and I walk all around those rooms. I am looking for a sign; and the sign I am looking for is, 'Do not spit here,' but I look around those two beautiful drawing rooms, and cannot find a sign like this. I think 'What a pity when this is such a beautiful home to have people spitting all over it -- too bad they don't put up a sign!' So I look all over that carpet, but cannot find that anybody have spitted there. What a queer thing! Where the sign says, 'Do not spit,' a lot of people spitted. Where there was no sign at all, in that beautiful home, nobody spitted. Now I understand! That sign is law, but inside the home it is grace. They love their beautiful home, and they want to keep it clean. They do not need a sign to tell them so. I think that explains the law and grace business."

As he sat down, a murmur of approval went round the room and the leader exclaimed, "I think that is the best illustration of law and grace I have ever heard."

- H. A. Ironside, *Illustrations of Bible Truth*, Moody Press, 1945, pp. 40-42.

## **Justification By Faith**

The Reformation Study Bible

Martin Luther declared that justification by faith alone is the article upon which the church stands or falls. This cardinal doctrine of the Protestant Reformation was seen as the battleground for nothing less than the gospel itself.

Justification may be defined as that act by which unjust sinners are made right in the sight of a just and holy God. The supreme need of unjust sinners is righteousness. It is the lack of righteousness that is supplied by Christ on behalf of the believing sinner. Justification by faith alone means justification by the righteousness or merit of Christ alone, not by our goodness or good deeds.

The issue of justification focuses on the question of merit and grace. Justification by faith means that the works we do are not good enough to merit justification. As Paul puts it, "*By works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight*" (Romans 3:20). Justification is forensic. That is, we are declared, counted, or reckoned to be righteous when God imputes the righteousness of Christ to our account. The necessary condition for this is faith.

Protestant theology affirms that faith is the instrumental cause of justification in that faith is the means by which the merits of Christ are appropriated to us. Roman Catholic theology teaches that baptism is the primary instrumental cause of justification and that the sacrament of penance is the secondary, restorative cause. (Roman Catholic theology views penance as the second plank of justification for those who have made shipwreck of their souls--those who have lost the grace of justification by committing mortal sin.) The sacrament of penance requires works of satisfaction by which human beings achieve congruous merit for justification. The Roman Catholic view affirms that justification is by faith, but denies that it is by faith alone, adding good works as a necessary condition.

The faith that justifies is a living faith, not an empty profession of faith. Faith is a personal trust that clings to Christ alone for salvation. Saving faith is also a penitent faith that embraces Christ as both Savior and Lord.

The Bible says that we are not justified by our own good works, but by what is added to us by faith, namely the righteousness of Christ. In a synthesis, something new is added to something basic. Our justification is a synthesis because we have the righteousness of Christ added to us. Our justification is by imputation. God transfers to us, by faith, the righteousness of Christ. This is not a "legal fiction" because God ascribes to us the real merit of Christ, to whom we now belong. It is a real imputation.

- Theological Essay, *The Reformation Study Bible*, R.C. Sproul General Editor, Reformation Trust, p. 2078.

### **Albert Barnes on Justification vs Pardon**

What is justification? It is the declared purpose of God to regard and treat those sinners who believe in Jesus Christ as if they had not sinned, on the ground of the merits of the Savior. It is not mere pardon. Pardon is a free forgiveness of past offenses. It has reference to those sins as forgiven and blotted out. Justification has respect to the law, and to God's future dealings with the sinner. It is an act by which God determines to treat him hereafter as righteous--as if he had not sinned. The basis for this is the merit of the Lord Jesus Christ, merit that we can plead as if it were our own. He has taken our

place and died in our stead; He has met the descending stroke of justice, which would have fallen on our own heads if He had not interposed. - Albert Barnes

### **Martin Luther on Faith & Works**

"The question is asked: How can justification take place without the works of the law, even though James says: 'Faith without works is dead'? In answer, the apostle distinguishes between the law and faith, the letter and grace. The 'works of the law' are works done without faith and grace, by the law, which forces them to be done through fear or the enticing promise of temporal advantages. But 'works of faith' are those done in the spirit of liberty, purely out of love to God. And they can be done only by those who are justified by faith.

An ape can cleverly imitate the actions of humans. But he is not therefore, a human. If he became a human, it would undoubtedly be not by virtue of the works by which he imitated man but by virtue of something else; namely, by an act of God. Then, having been made a human, he would perform the works of humans in proper fashion. Paul does not say that faith is without its characteristic works, but that it justifies without the works of the law. Therefore justification does not require the works of the law; but it does require a living faith, which performs its works." - Martin Luther

### **What Does it Mean that Christians are Not Under the Law?**

By S. Michael Houdmann

<https://www.gotquestions.org/not-under-the-law.html>

Question: *What does it mean that Christians are not under the law?*

Answer: An exposition of [Romans 10:4](#), which says: "*Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes,*" will help in understanding what it means that Christians are not under the law. The apostle Paul clarifies the effects of original sin in [Romans 2:12](#), stating, "*All who sin apart from the law will perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law.*" All men stand condemned before God, whether they are Jews or not, or to put it another way, whether they have the Law of God or not. Paul also states, "*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*" ([Romans 3:23](#)).

If we are without Christ, we are justly condemned in God's sight by the Law that was given to His servant Moses. However, we might argue that those who are not Jewish and therefore do not benefit from the knowledge of the Mosaic Law (including the moral and ceremonial laws), should not be condemned in the same way. This is dealt with by the Apostle in [Romans 2:14-15](#), where he states that the Gentiles have the essence of God's legal requirements already ingrained and so are just as much without excuse.

The Law is the issue that has to be dealt with in order to bring us into a right relationship with God. "*Know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus*

*Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified" (Galatians 2:16).* This passage reveals that the Law cannot justify or make righteous any man in God's sight, which is why God sent His Son to completely fulfill the requirements of the Law for all those who would ever believe in Him.

Christ Jesus redeemed us from the curse that has been brought through the law by becoming a curse for us ([Galatians 3:13](#)). He substituted Himself in our place and upon the cross took the punishment that is justly ours so that we are no longer under the curse of the Law. In doing so, He fulfilled and upheld the requirements of the Law. This does not mean that Christians are to be lawless, as some advocate today—a teaching called [antinomianism](#). Rather, it means that we are free from the Mosaic Law and instead under the law of Christ, which is to love God with all of our being and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Christ became the end of the Law by virtue of what He did on earth through His sinless life and His sacrifice on the cross. So, the Law no longer has any bearing over us because its demands have been fully met in the Lord Jesus Christ. Faith in Christ who satisfied the righteous demands of the Law restores us into a pleasing relationship with God and keeps us there. No longer under the penalty of the Law, we now live under the law of grace in the love of God.

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