

THE CURSE OF THE LAW -- SALVATION DEMANDED

Galatians 3:6-14

INTRO: It might surprise you to know that many people are living under a curse. A greater surprise-~~might be~~ who they are: the religious, upright, decent, moral, etc.

Greatest surprise is how they got under the curse: THROUGH RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY, FAITHFUL OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS DUTIES, ETC.

will would never agree
ENDEAVORING BY THESE TO PLEASE GOD AND GAIN ACCEPTANCE BEFORE HIM.

OUR TEXT DEALS WITH THE CENTRAL ISSUE:
HOW TO GET RIGHTLY RELATED TO GOD.

AND there are many who answer this question, not only with their lips but with their lives...by faithfully doing all God tells us to do, by human effort and resolve...

vs. 10: Under a CURSE: God originally intended blessing for all men, but many have brought themselves under a curse, rather than blessing.

THE LAW: Primarily the LAW OF MOSES, TEN COMMANDMENTS, but the definite article is missing often, indicating LAW IN GENERAL... applies to any system of religion or salvation that seeks to supplant faith with works...

Churchmanship, Baptism, Lord's Supper, etc....Often claim to be trusting in Christ alone but when they look for assurance of their salvation, they look to the fact they've joined church, faithful to activities, the MECHANICS OF RELIGION.

UNDER CURSE: MEANING: Alienation from God, living under the judgment of God, His wrath that will issue in final destruction.

WHY IS THE LAW A CURSE? Redefine living under the law -- effort, work, doing, etc.

(2)

*Just the opposite, what one would
imagine: Set free*

I. LIVING UNDER THE LAW SHUTS US IN TO
SIN. Vs. 22, @# 23

CONCLUDED: To be shut up, to shut in on all sides. In Luke 5:6, the net enclosing the fish.

PICTURE OF A JAILER in which men are confined and Scripture is the jailer that sees we don't escape.

vs. 23....KEPT UNDER THE LAW--To keep with a military guard....the law is a jailer...

confines us to the prison of sin, never letting us forget it. To hold in custody those who were in sin, so they would not escape the consciousness of their sins and their accountability at judgment.

HOW DOES THE LAW SHUT US IN THE PRISON OF SIN.

1. THE LAW IS THE MANIFESTATION OF GOD'S CHARACTER

The question, "How Can I be right with God" leads to another question. WHAT KIND OF GOD IS IT I'M TRYING TO FIND FAVOR WITH? This is extremely important.

If he is a sinful God like some of the pagan dieties, I'm okay. WHAT KIND OF GOD IS HE?

THE LAW TELLS US WE'RE DEALING WITH A RIGHTEOUS AND HOLY GOD, WHO CANNOT LOOK UPON OR FELLOWSHIP WITH SIN IN ANY DEGREE.

Immediately this demands that we also be righteous.

- (1) That God is Righteousness is revealed in the written law, the commandments.

These are simply an expression of the nature of God.

(3)

(2) That God is righteous~~NESS~~ is
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ revealed in the unwritten
law, the Conscience.

Man made in the image of God. Man's innate
sense of right and wrong, especially in
children a sensitivity to fairness...which
decreases as grow older in sin...searing the
conscience....OUR OWN ~~SENSE~~ SENSE OF RIGHT
AND WRONG, imperfect as it is, REFLECTS
GOD'S RIGHTEOUS IMAGE in us.

**Archeologist dig into the ruins of
fallen civilizations, discover only a
fragment, but that fragment proves the
whole once existed.

LIKEWISE you can dig into the ruins of
fallen ~~NATURE~~ human nature and discover,
unearth a fragment of right and wrong.
But that fragment proves the whole once
existed.

Even these trying to do away with any
moral code or standard...they are their
own proof that there is an absolute moral
law...because they base their campaign
on WHAT'S FAIR, WHAT'S RIGHT. Even their
perverted sense of right and wrong is a
fragment that proves the whole once existed/

2. THE LAW IS THE MEASURE OF MAN'S CHARACTER

RIDE AT SIX FLAGS: "You've got to be as
tall as this sign." Stand on tiptoes, etc.

GOD SETS US HIS LAW....You've got to be as
tall as this.

Vs/10,12-- ALL THINGS. James 2:10...offend
in just one point.

SHALL NOT COVET GOD DOESN'T GRADE ON ~~CURVE~~
CURVE! ENTRANCE EXAM...MISS ONE AND OUT!

(4)

II. THE LAW SHUTS US OUT OF SALVATION

1. WORKS RESCINDS, REMOVES GRACE OF GOD.

Rom. 4:16; 11:6

Salvation is the house that Grace built
and only faith opens the door.

*The Law holds up a goal to be achieved,
Grace offers a gift to be received.*

2. WORKS REJECT THE GIFT OF GOD.

Only we can escape our curse is through His
curse for us. If works could do it,
Jesus needn't Have died.