

Living Justified in Christ (Gal. 2:15-21)

I. Living as if Justified by Law Rejects the Gospel (15-18)

CONTEXT: Peter drawing back from Gentiles

Living opposite from his message

APPLICATION: We live opposite of our message

We put rules on others we don't keep

Not rejection of law, but understanding gospel

A. Justification by Law is Impossible (15-16)

1. The Jews were God's Blessed People (15)

CONTEXT: Paul's argument to Peter

a. They received special blessing over other nations

b. They had and honored God's law

c. To them, Gentiles were separate category who neglected law

2. The Jews cannot be Justified by law (16a)

a. Justification is only by faith in Christ

b. Even Jews must be justified by faith in Christ

3. No one can be justified by works of law (16b)

a. There is no man good enough

b. There is no man who has kept law

B. Justification by Law Denies the Gospel of Christ (17-18)

1. Rejecting Law for Justification Reveals our sin (17)

a. Denying Justification by Law admits one's sin

i. If Law justifies – you must keep it

ii. If you can't – it can't justify

iii. If you seek justification in Christ – admit sin

b. Denying Justification by Law admits Christ's righteousness

i. Christ is not a minister of sin

ii. Christ is fulfillment of the law

iii. Christ does not call us to sin

2. Returning to Law for Justification Destroys Gospel (18)

a. Rebuilding works righteousness is Fatal

i. It returns us to an impossible system

ii. It prove us to be criminals

II. Living as if Justified in Christ Reflects the Gospel (19-21)

A. Justification is in Union With Christ (19-20a)

1. The Law Brings Death

2. The Believer Died Christ's death

a. We died in union with Him

b. We were crucified and paid the price for sin

c. Christ was resurrected in us

d. Christ Lives in us

B. Justification through Law Invalidates Christ's Sacrifice (20b-21)

1. The Believer Lives by Christ's Faithfulness

(Faith of Christ)

2. The Believer Cannot exchange Grace for Law in Justification

- a. To do so nullifies Christ's death
- b. Christ didn't need to die if it were possible to keep law