

## LEGALIZING GRACE IS ILLEGAL

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**If you do not believe in Eternal Security, you are legalizing the Grace of God and that is illegal. Legalism is counterfeit Christianity. Legalism is evil because it is produced by the sin nature. Legalism is “human good” and is therefore rejected by God because of the perfect life death and resurrection of Christ.**

Just as you cannot work for salvation, you cannot work to keep yourself saved (Romans Chapter 8; Romans 11:5-6, 33, 36; Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 1:6; 2:13). **God saved us through Christ and God keeps us saved through the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:35-39).** Notice, I said **God saves us and keeps us saved.** This is why God can be glorified in us and through us – **He does the work.** God is not glorified if our human works are involved in any way. If we could keep ourselves saved then we deserve the credit (glory) – not God. If we could keep ourselves saved then we would not need the Holy Spirit. But because He indwells us **we need Him!** Taking credit (glorying in self) for the work of God is blasphemous and arrogant. It is denying God the credit (glory) and it fails to understand God’s Grace.

We are going to sin and struggle against sin as long as we live, just like the Apostle Paul (Romans 7:14-25). The law of faith excludes self-righteousness for salvation and after salvation (Romans 3:27). **Salvation is a free gift from God because Christ paid the debt for the believer. The Christian life after salvation is God’s gift to us through the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 3:16).** This is the purpose of His Indwelling. He empowers us against sin through the Word metabolized in our soul and spirit. We will sin, but not the same sin habitually unless we are out of fellowship under the control of our sin nature.

The justified shall live by faith (Romans 1:16-17). We are to be a living sacrifice, Holy acceptable to God which is our reasonable service (Romans 12:1). We do this by learning God’s Word daily and naming our sins as they occur (1 John 1:9). The Holy Spirit must control if God is to be glorified, because when the Holy Spirit is in control then God’s Pre-designed Plan of Grace is manifested and lived out in our lives. **When the Holy Spirit leads (controls) we follow (in fellowship) and God is glorified.** When we lead we are out of fellowship - our sin nature is in control. Our efforts become “wood, hay and stubble” at the judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 3:6-16).

**Christianity is all about God not you!** We are to be all about God **minus self. This is the Christian Life – the Trinity in us doing God’s Plan through us.** We are to be willing sacrifices by yielding (1 John 1:9) to the control of the Holy Spirit. God’s PPG is simple for salvation and for living a life of intimate fellowship with Him. God has taken care of everything. Learn to trust Him. Remember, legalizing Grace is illegal – unacceptable to God.

**Christ is the manifestation of God's Grace for salvation. The Holy Spirit is the manifestation of God's Grace for living the Christian life.** God's Plan cannot fail neither can you if you stay in fellowship (1 John 1:9). When we are in fellowship God is glorified – He gets the credit, not you – this is Grace by God's design for the believer. With these things in mind, please read Ephesians 2:22-24.

The Holy Spirit turned on the light of your salvation so you could see your true self (need) and Christ on the Cross. That same **power** and **light source** (the Holy Spirit), will illumine your understanding and awaken the slumbering spirit inside of you. Bible Doctrine is the eternal knowledge of God – it is Divine Viewpoint. Learn it, love it and live it.

**Happy studying!**