

## The Righteous Will Live by Faith

**"All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: 'Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.' Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, 'The righteous will live by faith.'"**

**Galatians 3:10-11**

Can we make God happy with us by trying to obey him? Do we need to strictly follow a set of rules in order to be forgiven? Like the Galatians, we may fall into the trap of trying to follow the law in order to please God. Maybe we start to think, "I have to do this or that so I will be right with God."

Our salvation does not depend on how well we follow the law. If it did, we would be in big trouble. No one can follow the law perfectly. The Bible says in James 2:10, "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it."

We can't become righteous by following the law. We will only drive ourselves to despair trying. God says that all our good works are like "filthy rags." If we say we have to follow the law in order to be saved, we are telling Jesus that what he did is not good enough. Galatians 2:21 says, 'I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!'"

It is impossible for us to follow God's law perfectly, but Jesus did. He came to this earth and lived the perfect life for us in our place. He never sinned; not even once. He then suffered and died to pay the price for all the times we have not kept the law. Now God sees us as though we have kept the whole law. He did it all for us. There is nothing for us to do. It is finished.

**Prayer:**

Dear Jesus, I cannot gain righteousness by following the law. Thank you for living the perfect life that is impossible for me to live. Thank you for dying to take away all of my sins. Please help me remember that my debt is paid in full and I can't do anything to save myself. In your name I pray, Amen

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