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For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes

Moses said, “For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.” (Deuteronomy 30:11-14)

There is none who does the commandments; no one is justified before God by the law. However, Moses said that this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you. But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it. One seemed to contradict the other. In fact, every word of God must be established. Deuteronomy is to reiterate commandments. At chapter 30, Moses came to the conclusion. Paul knows the mystery in it. Under the revelation of the Holy Spirit, he wrote the Epistle to the Romans, which says “For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”(Romans 10:4)

I. righteousness that depends on law

(i) A person is unable to do the law

If a person does LORD’s statutes and rules, he shall live by them (Romans 10:5, Leviticus 18:5). If you are able to do the law at all times, you do not need other righteousness. The problems is no one is justified before God by the law (Galatians 3:11). For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it (James 2:10). You can't split the law up into little

sections and say, Well, I'll keep this part but not that part because it's one single system. For example, the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the LORD (1 Samuel 2:12,23). Samuel was a God-fearing servant. Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice (1 Samuel 8:3).

The Scriptures said, "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and, though they discipline him, will not listen to them, then all the men of the city shall stone him to death with stones"(Deuteronomy 21:18-21). For one point, throughout the Scriptures, I see no one is able to keep it.

(ii) For then, what is the value of the law?

As the law is the oracles of God, instructing people how to behave and follow rules. Nevertheless, by works of the law no human being will be justified in God's sight. For then, what is the value of the commandments? Much in every way. Through the law comes knowledge of sin. If it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet my neighbor's house, wife, male servant or female servant, ox donkey, or anything that is my neighbor's if the law had not said, "You shall not covet"(Exodus 20:17).

I would not have known if I do not honor my father and my mother, my days may be short on earth. I would not have known homosexuality is sin if the law had not said, if a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death. Homosexuality brings wrath of God. I would not have known there is death sentence in the law, I would not have known the death sentences should not be abolished. If death sentences are abolished, it is rule by law degradation. I would not have known abortion is sin if the commandments had not said you shall not murder since it is to murder your own baby.

II. righteousness that depends on faith

(i) righteousness of believing in Jesus

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes (Romans 10:4).

There is only one person in the whole world that can keep the law that is Lord Jesus. He is the only one who does not sin. For all have sinned, we need a man without sin who is qualified to die for us for righteousness to whoever believes in him; for God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Therefore the Bible says Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

We do not have to keep the law for Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross and redeemed us from the curse of the law—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.” Whoever is willing to believe in Jesus, humbles himself, confesses his sins, and repents, his sins are forgiven. The verdict comes down from the supreme court of heaven on your life: not guilty. God acquits us of all sin and He justifies us. This is the reflection of words in the Bible, “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God”(2 Corinthians 5:21).

(ii) The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart

But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim) (Romans 10:8) The righteousness based on faith, righteousness gained from believing in Lord Jesus Christ, says and how did it say? You do not need to work hard and say, “To find Jesus Christ, I need to ascend into heaven or descend into the abyss or go over the sea and bring Christ to us.” In fact, Christ is very near you. You do not need to find it. It is in your mouth and in your heart. This is the word that we preach. All you have to use is your mouth and heart to express the willingness to believe in Jesus. That is easy to gain. This was to fulfill the word of Moses: “For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off”(Deuteronomy 30:11).

3. Guide people to confess our sins and repent, obtaining the gospel of Jesus Christ, the salvation of our souls

(1) from mouth to heart

“because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”(Romans 10:9)

Righteousness that depends on faith means to have faith to confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, our salvation. You might say I believe; help my unbelief! What should I do? No worries. You only have to confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, my salvation. What you say in mouth will naturally go into your heart.

(2)From heart to mouth

For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. (Romans 10:10)

If there are some intubated patients who cannot speak, lay hand on the sick and guide them to confess our sins and repent in spirit and heart. That way they will be saved. If the person is still breathing and heart is still beating, they all have a change to believe Lord Jesus and be saved. You might say, “The patient has Alzheimer's disease. Can I still guide him to believe Lord Jesus?” Do not worry. The patients know clearly in their heart. Although they cannot speak, they acknowledge in their hearts. Of course they can be saved. This is how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

4. Real witness

Sister Li Jie's grandfather was in a hospital on the critical list wearing an oxygen mask. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, sister Wang went there to preach the gospel and guide him to confess his sins and repent, word by word, saying:

Dear Lord Jesus,

Please save me for I am a sinner. I lied. I deceived. I smoked. I was an alcoholic. Please forgive my sins with your blood. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I pray. Amen.

After that, sister Wang continued to guide him to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, which is making sounds of da da da da da da da da....or di di di di di di di... with the tongue.

A few days later, Li Jie saw her grandfather in her dream and he said to her, "Thank you for giving me the salvation of Jesus Christ. Now I am glad" and Li Jie replied, "but you have not been baptized in the water yet." Her grandfather said, "No worries. I am now in God's kingdom." The next morning when she woke up she called her dad and told him about the dream. Her dad said, "Grandfather passed away yesterday."