

THE WRONG SAVIOR PT. 8



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Matt. 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

- Jesus was manifested to destroy the works of the devil, not the works of God! He was God in the flesh and did not come to contradict anything that was written. *1John 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.*
- To fulfill the law simply means Christ provided grace by paying what the law required of us. The manifestation of righteousness is in Him so that if we be in Him, we are counted righteous. *Gal. 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:*
- This scripture means that we live according to His commandment and it will cover the law and the teachings of the Old Testament prophets. Love your neighbor as yourself! *James 2:8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:*



Matt. 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Matt. 5:19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

- The law of God is unchanging because He is His law. The law is His commandment to teach us His ways and thoughts. *Gal. 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*
- We are still required to keep the commandments of God and teach men to do so. When we obey His commands, we will be counted as great in the kingdom of heaven. *Rom. 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*
- This is not saying that we can be perfect and never break the law. It's saying that through Christ, we can be counted worthy of obeying the law by accepting His blood as a payment for our sin. *Heb. 12:24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*



Matt. 5:20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

- The scribes and Pharisees believed they were good enough to enter the kingdom because they obeyed the law and appeared righteous. *John 8:33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?*
- But Christ came to teach that appearing good enough is not good enough. The law keepers' hostile disposition towards Christ proved that they were not perfect as they appeared. *John 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.*
- To exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, one must accept the very Messiah they rejected. Being in Christ makes our righteousness perfect because He paid the price of the law with His life and death. *Heb. 8:6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.*



Summary

Our righteousness is filthy rags according to the scripture. Anyone that is claiming their righteousness based solely on their behavior is deceiving themselves because our flesh cannot satisfy the law! It is impossible to live the standard of God's law daily without error. Only Jesus was able to do it. He lived His life to do it and His sin-free life fulfilled the law. His death satisfied God and allows us grace for our error and salvation to enter the kingdom of heaven when we die.

Jesus' grace does not negate the law or the prophets. God's laws, precepts and the teachings of the prophets of old, provides us insight on His point of view and how the culture of God functioned. But God sent His Son to live and die as penance for us, to save the Gentile nations and those that were reared under a different culture. This makes us all Israelites in a sense because Jesus is the Israel of God. If we are in Christ and we live according to His commandments, then we will be counted great in the kingdom of heaven.

Gal. 3:25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Gal. 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Gal. 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Gal. 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal. 3:29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.