

Laying The Foundation
Faith And Works
4163

I. Factual Content Of The Gospel

- A. 1 Cor. 15:1–5; Rom. 4:22–25
 - 1. Jesus delivered to *death* on account of *our sins*
 - 2. Jesus was *buried*
 - 3. God *raised Jesus* on the third day
 - 4. We are reckoned *righteous* by believing these facts
- B. Primary attestation: the Old Testament Scriptures
- C. Secondary attestation: testimony of human witnesses

II. Imputation Of Righteousness

- A. Received by faith, without works
 - 1. Romans 4:5
 - 2. Ephesians 2:8–10
- B. *But* living faith produces appropriate works (James 2:24, 26)
 - 1. Grace is received without earning it
 - 2. Works is what we do
- C. Relationship between faith and works
 - 1. We are *not* required to keep the Law of Moses—*or* any other law. Christianity is *not* a set of laws.
 - a. No justification by keeping law (Rom. 3:20)
 - b. Law and grace are exclusive (Rom. 6:14)
 - c. The law stirs up sin (Rom. 7:4–6)
 - d. Law cannot bring righteousness (Rom. 10:4)
 - 2. To turn back to law is serious error
 - a. The Galatian Christians were bewitched: the cross and its work was obscured to them (Gal. 3:1–3)
 - b. This brings a curse (Gal. 3:10)
 - c. Confirmed in Old Testament (Jer. 17:5)
 - 3. Law works from without, leaving us to our own ability
 - 4. Grace works from within, supplying supernatural ability
 - 5. “Be holy” (Lev. 11:44; 1 Pet. 1:16)
 - a. Law says, “*I must keep all these rules*”
 - b. Grace says, “*Jesus in me lives out His holiness through me*” (1 Cor. 1:30; Heb. 12:10)

III. The Righteous Requirement Of The Law

- A. Only through the supernatural (Rom. 8:3–4)
- B. *Love*
 - 1. *All* law has two objectives: (Matt. 22:35–40)
 - a. Love for God
 - b. Love for neighbor
 - 2. Love is the fulfillment of the law (Rom. 13:8–10)
 - 3. Faith must work through love (Gal. 5:6)
 - 4. The goal of all teaching is love (1 Tim. 1:5)

- C.** Love motivates us to obedience (John 14:15, 23)
- D.** More effective than fear (1 John 4:18)
- E.** Obedience of love is progressive (Phil. 1:9–11)
- F.** Meanwhile, *faith* is reckoned as righteousness (Rom. 4:23–24)

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