

The law – Pt 1 the law of faith

In our previous study on “Justified by the faith of Christ” we established 3 points (1) it is God that justifies, (2) no man is justified by the law in the sight of God and (3) a man is justified by the faith of Christ, by His grace, by His blood. In this study on law we establish there is (i) the law of Moses, (ii) the law of sin, and (iii) the law of faith.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. The law of Moses.

“And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening” (Acts 28:23). See also 1 Cor.9: 9, Acts 13: 39, 15: 5, 22: 3.

Otherwise known as – the law of the Jews –Acts 25:8, the law of a carnal commandment – Heb.7: 16, the law of commandments – Eph.2: 15 which include such things as the law of a wife being bound to her husband so long as he lives – Rom.7: 2 (1 Cor.7: 39). Remember –“by the law is the knowledge of sin” (Rom.3: 20).

2. The law of sin which is in our members.

“But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members” (Rom.7: 23).

“The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law” (1 Cor.15: 56), and there is the law of sin and death (Rom.8: 2).

3. Law of faith

“Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith” (Rom.3: 27).

The law of faith excludes boasting and works.

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

Seventh-Day adventists (SDAs) believe that “Salvation is all of grace and not of works, and its fruit is obedience to the Commandments...The fourth commandment of God’s unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest, worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath...(1 John 5:13). Please notice John didn’t say that you can hope you have eternal life...He said that you can know that you have eternal life...That’s not to say that you can’t change your mind. Just because you were once saved doesn’t mean you can’t turn from God later”.

Question to think about.

Do SDAs obey the law of faith?

Our answer from the scriptures.

If they boast in worshipping on the Sabbath, then No, if they make salvation dependant on worshipping on the Sabbath for us to have the right faith, then No. IF they believe you can lose your salvation when their faith runs out, then No. WHY? Because – the Law of Faith says faith is not of works, lest any should boast, And by our faith we believe the gospel unto salvation, but by Christ’s faith we are justified and SDAs cannot be justified by Christ’s faith if they can lose their salvation. Let us remember there is the law of Moses, the law of sin which is in our members and the law of faith which excludes works and boasting. Amen!