

dead. And I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive, and I died; and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; for sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me. So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good."

(2) The Law demands perfection

James 2:10 -- "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all."

Galatians 3:10 -- "For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, 'Cursed is every one who does not abide by all things written in the book of the Law, to perform them.' "

(3) The Law is extrinsically weak through the flesh

Romans 8:3, 7-8 -- "For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, . . . because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the Law of God, for it is not even able to do so; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

- b. Because if justification were based on works, then justification would always be relative to the quality and quantity of good works performed.
- c. Because the Scriptures represent justification as springing from the grace of God through faith, with no condition of human works attached.

Ephesians 2:8-9 -- "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

Galatians 5:4 -- "You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace."

Titus 3:5-7 -- "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Romans 3:23-24 -- "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.