

# THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF A SINNER TO BE SAVED

## BIBLICAL DOCTRINE ABOUT THE MINISTRATION OF THE LAW AND THE MINISTRATION OF THE GOSPEL

The ministration of the law is a ministration of death (2 Cor. 3:7), of cursing (Gal. 3:10), or conviction (Rom. 3:19). The ministration of the Gospel is a vivifying ministration of a death sinner by the voice of the Son of God (John. 5:25). Justification, regeneration, sanctification, faith and love, do not belong to the ministration of the law, but belong to the ministration of the Gospel. Mount Sinai, a revelation of the ministration of the law, will never become Mount Calvary, which is the revelation of the ministration of the Gospel. The holy law of God requires complete obedience and in case of disobedience the three-fold punishment, revealed in Genesis 2:17, has to come. That three-fold punishment is applicable to every sinner by nature, *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."* Rom. 3:23, so that *whatever things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become damnable before God."* Rom. 3:19.

The ministration of the Gospel is centred on Mount Calvary, because Christ on the cross reveals justification and sanctification for a lost sinner. A saved sinner will never be pointed back to Mount Sanai, because Christ Him crucified, is the complete Savior for a hell-deserving sinner, to be justified and sanctified in Him, which is so clearly written in 1 Corinthians 1:30: *"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who from God is made to us Wisdom, and Righteousness, and Sanctification, and Redemption."*

**God justifies the ungodly only - Rom. 4:5.** In his state of unregeneracy Abraham was an ungodly person, as all God's elect are in the state of their carnal nature. When God justifies them, being without a righteousness of their own, He imputes the righteousness of Another unto them, the righteousness of His Own Son, and though He justifies the ungodly, He does not justify their ungodliness, but He forgives their sins and delivers them from the dominion of sin and satan, like it is written: *"For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace"*, Rom. 6:14.

However, by most of the ministers of divinity, the saved sinner will be pointed back to Mount Sanai, to start a course of sanctification, to become holier and holier, but the result of that legalistic work is that sin revives. That is what Paul said in Romans 7:9: *"For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died."*

If we turn back to the law after receiving grace to be sanctified by Moses, we are spiritual adulterers. If we commit adultery with Moses, Christ can not be our Sanctification anymore and if He is not our Sanctification, He can not be our Righteousness. But a true believer is adopted by Christ to be just as well as holy in Him (1 Cor. 1:30). Therefore limited holiness doesn't exist, even not a progress of sanctification. Gods children are in a state of righteousness and of complete sanctification, because of Christ and they are as holy as Christ is for ever and ever. If we are in Christ by a true faith, the Lord God sees no spot at all in us and for that blessed fact, even an afflicted man who is ready to die (Ps. 88:15), will glorify Him and Him only! *"And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only."* Matt. 17:8.

That means that the rule of the believers life is not the law, but the Gospel and if we walk according to the Gospel, we do not walk according to the flesh, but we will walk according to the Spirit (Rom. 8:1). The law will be completely satisfied with us if we are under the dominion of grace. If we believe in Christ, we will walk in the footsteps of Christ, because being in Christ we live in a state of communion with Him, even if we walk on this earth full of sin and misery, even if we know that the law is spiritual and we are carnal, sold under sin (Rom. 7:14), but that complain is not the last word what Paul has to say. No, he thanks God through Jesus Christ as His Lord and Savior (Rom. 7:25). If we came to the end of the law, being dead to the law (Gal. 2:19), then it sounds: *"For Christ is the end of the law for Righteousness to every one that believeth"*, Rom. 10:4. After receiving grace nothing can separate us anymore from the love of Christ, no law, no sin, no condemnation of men, even God cannot take away or change His promise what He has spoken in our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit to our salvation. In Christ we are in complete agreement to the law. Christ is also the Finisher of faith through Which faith we are justified (Rom. 3:22 - Gal. 2:16), that is the righteousness which is from God by faith (Philip. 3:9).

However, the first work of the Holy Spirit is not the gift of faith, but the conviction of sin and misery. It takes place before regeneration.

John 16:8-11: *"And when He is come (the Holy Spirit), He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye see Me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged."*

The biblical preaching of the Word is preaching both law and Gospel. Preaching the law is necessary to reveal that all flesh is condemned by the law and preaching the Gospel is a means to be delivered by Christ from the dominion of the devil and the dominion of sin, in the forgiveness of all our sins. Christ is looking for lost sinners, because the application of salvation is only applicable to a LOST sinner and nobody else. *"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."* Luke 19:10.

**There are three things necessary to know to be saved:**

1. Conviction of sin and misery, and the final the ministration of death by the law, so that the old man under the law will die by the law (Rom. 7:9 - Gal. 2:19),
2. Delivery of a total lost and condemned sinner by Christ from the dominion of sin and the dominion of the devil, by justification and regeneration,
3. Thankfulness by faith for such a delivery by Christ as a fruit of Christ. *"From Me is thy fruit found."* Hos. 14:8b.

**The impossibility of sinners to be saved**

Matthew 19:24-26: *"And again I say to you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said to them, With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

John 3:27: John (the baptist) *"A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven."*

John 5:25: *"Verily, verily, I say to you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live."*

Hannah in 1 Samuel 2:6: *"The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up."*

John 6:44: *"No man can come to Me, except the Father who hath sent Me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."*

John 14:6: *"Jesus saith to him, I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh to the Father, but by Me."*

See Matthew 7:24-27: (Parable of a wise builder and a foolish builder) - *"A wise man, who built his house upon a rock and a foolish man who built his house upon sand."*

Matthew 25:1-12: (Parable of the 10 virgins) *"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, Give us of your oil: for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready, went in with him to the marriage, and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say to you, I know you not."*

Act 2:36-38: *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said to Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men, brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said to them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

Galatians 1:15-16 *"But when it pleased God, Who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood."*

Rev. 19:1: *"And after these things I heard a great voice of many people in heaven, saying, Alleluia: Salvation, and glory, and honor, and power, to the Lord our God."*

Rev. 19:3: ***"And again they said, Alleluia."***

***"Alleluia! Amen!"*** -GPPB. v.d.m.