

Seventeen Reasons for Fact-Based Joy: A Study In Philippians

Reason 13: The Joy of Standing Firm

Philippians 3:17–4:1

The Lord's Day Morning

February 2, 2020

The Liberal Error	Standing Firm	The Conservative Error
<p>The Law of Me: Since the fall, all people are born with the inclination to rebel against God. We want to be in charge, to be the lord of our own lives, to go our own way, to follow our feelings, and make our own laws. We want to be liberated from the <i>Law of Christ</i> and live according to the <i>Law of Me</i>.</p> <p>Because god made me this way, I am lord of my life and live according to the <i>Law of Me</i> (license).</p>	<p>The Law of Christ: Because Jesus fulfilled the <i>ceremonial law</i> and the <i>civil law</i> of Moses, these laws are repealed. But Jesus and the apostles repeat and apply the <i>moral law</i> (except the Sabbath law), not as a means to merit salvation, but as a means to glorify God by loving Him and people (1 Cor. 9:21; Gal. 6:2).</p> <p>Because God has accepted me for Christ's sake (imputed righteousness), I find joy in obeying the <i>Law of Christ</i>.</p>	<p>The Law of Moses: The <i>ceremonial law</i> (circumcision, sacrifices, diet, etc.) foreshadows Jesus' coming. The <i>civil law</i> (tort law, justice system, etc.) guides Israel as a theocracy. The <i>moral law</i> (e.g., Ten Commandments) instructs Israel on how to love God and others.</p> <p>Because I selectively obey the <i>Law of Moses</i>, and even add to it, God is obligated to accept me (legalism).</p>

Five Characteristics of the Law of Me

1. _____ suffering for the cause of Christ.
2. _____ for eternal punishment.
3. _____ ethics by trusting feelings.
4. _____ unloving conduct that has been socially legitimized.
5. _____ on a short-term perspective.