

LEGALISM

Scriptural Helps for Answering

Please look up and read the scriptures noted below. Complete scripture references are posted, however due to space constraints, in some references, only the main idea of the passage is reproduced here.

Psalms 51:16-17

16For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. 17The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.

Matthew 9:14-17

14Then the disciples of John came to Him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but Your disciples do not fast?” 15And Jesus said to them, “Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them?”

Matthew 22:35-40

37... ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38This is the first and great commandment. 39And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Mark 7:18-23

18...Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, 19because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?” 20And He said, “What comes out of a man, that defiles a man.

John 4:23-24

24God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Acts 10:9-16

15And a voice spoke to him again the second time, “What God has cleansed you must not call common.”

Acts 15:22-29

24Since we have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your souls, saying, “You must be circumcised and keep the law”—to whom we gave no such commandment— 25it seemed good to us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who will also report the same things by word of mouth. 28For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: 29that you abstain from things offered to idols, from

blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.

Romans 1:17

17For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

Romans 3:19-31

20Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

Romans 6:14-15

14For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Romans 7:1-6

4Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

Romans 8:1-4

2For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin...

Romans 10:4

4For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Romans 14

16Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; 17for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.

2 Corinthians 3:4-9

5...our sufficiency is from God, 6who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 7But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, 8how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?

Legalism is the attempt to gain justification (salvation) or sanctification (being more Christ like) by attempting to keep the law.

Galatians 3:19-25

19What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; ...24Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Galatians 4:28-31

28Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise... 31So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.

Galatians 5:1-6

1Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. 2Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. 3And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law.

Ephesians 1:3-6

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ... 6to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

Ephesians 2:11-16

13But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

Philippians 3:1-11

3For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, 4though I also might have confidence in the flesh.

Colossians 2:16-23

16So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. ...20Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— 21“Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” 22which all concern things which perish with the using— according to the commandments and doctrines of men? 23These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

1 Timothy 1:8-11
8But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully,
9knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person,
but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for
sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers
and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10for fornicators,
for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if
there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine,
11according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which
was committed to my trust.

1 Timothy 4:1-5
4For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be
refused if it is received with thanksgiving; 5for it is sanctified
by the word of God and prayer.
Titus 1:13-16
13...Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in
the faith, 14not giving heed to Jewish fables and
commandments of men who turn from the truth. 15To the pure
all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving
nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

Titus 3:9-11
9But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and
strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless.
10Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition,
11knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being
self-condemned.

Hebrews 4:10-11
10For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from
his works as God did from His. 11Let us therefore be diligent
to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same
example of disobedience.

Hebrews 8:7-13
10For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of
Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in
their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their
God, and they shall be My people.

Hebrews 9:9-14
9It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and
sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed
the service perfect in regard to the conscience— 10concerned
only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly
ordinances imposed until the time of reformation.

 versesforlife.org
**The Media Teaching Ministry
of Calvary Chapel Riverside**
calvarychapelriverside.org
616-988-WORD (9673)

Hebrews 10:1-4
1For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and
not the very image of the things, can never with these same
sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make
those who approach perfect.

Hebrews 10:8-10
8Previously saying, “Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings,
and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in
them” (which are offered according to the law),

Hebrews 13:9-10
9Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines.
For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with
foods which have not profited those who have been occupied
with them.

James 2:10
10For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in
one point, he is guilty of all.

What we have in Christ

1 Corinthians 1:4-8
4... by Christ Jesus, 5that you were enriched in everything by
Him in all utterance and all knowledge, 6even as the testimony
of Christ was confirmed in you, 7so that you come short in no
gift, ...

1 Corinthians 15:10
10But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace
toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than
they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Ephesians 1:11-12
11In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being
predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all
things according to the counsel of His will, 12that we who first
trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 3:16-21
16that He would grant you, according to the riches of His
glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the
inner man, 17that Christ may dwell in your hearts through
faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18may be
able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and
length and depth and height— 19to know the love of Christ
which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the
fullness of God.

Ephesians 6:10
10Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power
of His might.

Philippians 2:13
13for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His
good pleasure.

2 Timothy 1:8-9
8Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord,
nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for
the gospel according to the power of God, 9who has saved us
and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works,
but according to His own purpose and grace which was given
to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

1 Peter 5:10
10But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal
glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect,
establish, strengthen, and settle you.

Jude 24
24Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to
present you faultless before the presence of His glory with
exceeding joy,

Summary

Isaiah 64:6a
6But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our
righteousnesses are like filthy rags;

Matthew 5:17
17“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets.
I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

Romans 3:20
20Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in
His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

2 Corinthians 5:21
21For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we
might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Galatians 4:4-9
4But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth
His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5to redeem
those who were under the law, that we might receive the
adoption as sons. 6And because you are sons, God has sent
forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba,
Father!” 7Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if
a son, then an heir of God through Christ. 8But then, indeed,
when you did not know God, you served those which by nature
are not gods. 9But now after you have known God, or rather
are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak
and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in
bondage?