

“Understanding God’s Grace and Breaking the Rules of Legalism” Galatians 3:3

I. The Problem

What is legalism?

Definition: Legalism is seeking to achieve forgiveness from God and _____ by God through _____ to God.

II. The Solution to Legalism

1. Understand God’s Grace in the Gospel

Definition: Grace is God’s _____.

Ephesians 2:1-10; John 10:27-30; 2 Corinthians 5:17

2. Distinguish between Justification and Sanctification

Justification	Sanctification
Being <i>declared</i> righteous	Being <i>made</i> righteous
Your <i>position</i> before God	Your <i>practice</i>
Objective – Christ’s work <i>for</i> us	Subjective – Christ’s work <i>within</i> us
<i>Immediate</i> and complete upon conversion	A <i>process</i> for the rest of the Christian’s life

Romans 3:20; Titus 3:4-5; Luke 18:9-14

3. Understand Your Identity in Christ.

_____ is Paul’s preferred contrast to the slavery of legalism.

Slaves under the law have now received “the full rights of sons ... so you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir” Galatians 4:5, 7.

4. Replace Penance with Repentance

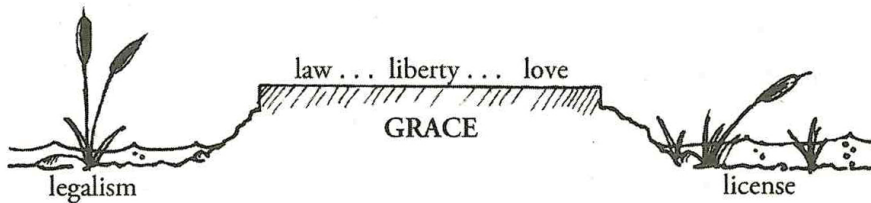
Definition of Penance: voluntary _____ - _____ inflicted for having done wrong.

Repentance is distinct from penance in that the motive is the Lordship of Jesus and the endpoint is Jesus, not ourselves.

III. Driving Directions to Stay on the Road of Grace

Galatians 5:13–14

The built-up roadbed represents grace that allows you to drive safely through the swampland of legalism and license.¹



IV. How can I be a channel of God's grace?

1. _____

Psalm 118:24; Colossians 3:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; James 1:17

2. _____

Luke 17:7–10; Philippians 4:11-13; 1 Timothy 6:6

3. _____

Philippians 2:3-11; Luke 22:27; John 15:4-5

4. _____

Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:12-13; 1 Peter 4:8

5. _____

Colossians 3:13; Matthew 18:21-35

¹ Bridges, J. (2008). *Transforming Grace: Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love* (160–161). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.