

## THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH

The law of sin and death was the law pronounced upon Adam and Eve. If you sin, you will die. Jesus did not nail our sins to the cross according to Colossians 2:14. Jesus did nail the law of sin and death to His cross in that Jesus will remove sin from all creation and thus death will end as well. Jesus' sinless death makes it possible for all who believe Him and receive Him to be born again and ultimately they are removed from the law of sin and death and brought to the state of glorification. We are saved by His life.

Jesus did not nail the law of the covenant to His cross either as some say. Jesus fulfilled the law of the covenant. The law is good and explains sin and is not taken away. But the law of the covenant could not do what God did in Jesus. God condemned sin and sentenced sin to removal from all creation. Jesus came to save the cosmos from sin including all people who will believe in Him. The Gospel is simple. Jesus came to die so that sin can be taken away and righteousness experienced. Those who believe in His death and resurrection for sin removal are saved.

The "written decree" of Col. 2:14 is the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2 Through Christ, the law of the Spirit set me free from the law of sin and death. Believers are removed from their sin at glorification and are freed from sin and its consequence. Since God sees the believer complete in Christ, the believer is free from the law of sin and death, and we are commanded to no longer be slaves to sin through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

Adam sinned one time and brought the law of sin and death upon creation. Jesus did one act of righteousness, sinless death, and nailed the law of sin and death to the cross. The cross procured the eventual removal of the law of sin and death from all creation.

By nailing the written decree, the law of sin and death, to the cross, Jesus became humanity's God-given substitute for Adam and gained the Way for man to be changed through new birth, sanctification, and ultimately glorification.

The substitutionary work of Christ was to do away with the law of sin and death for the whole cosmos. The substitutionary work of Christ is not the nailing of our sins to the cross. Jesus nailed to the cross the governance of the Law of sin and death which is defined by the Law of

the Covenant given to us through Moses. Believers are no longer bound by the governance of the Law of sin and death. Believers may live by the Law of the Spirit of life. Rom. 8:2,3

### THE UNBIBLICAL VIEW OF SUBSTITUTION DESTROYS LIVES

The unbiblical view of “substitution” enhances the professional, personal, and physical suicide of people both saved and unsaved who think they have received protection from the judgment and consequences of their sins. Unbiblical phrases used to entice people in evangelism lead both the saved and unsaved away from God. When the lost pray a prayer to receive Jesus and they are only concerned with a ticket to avoid punishment for sin, the damage is hard to overcome. When the saved hear a steady diet of evangelistic phrases concerning forgiveness and protection from punishment, the slide into rationalizing and excusing sin is nearly inevitable. The common thread of all the unbiblical phrases arises from the false belief that we are saved by Jesus’ death. The Bible teaches that we are saved by His resurrection life (Romans 5:10). Jesus’ sinless death makes the “Way” to life possible. Without His sinless death which condemns sin to the utmost, there would be no salvation and no redemption (Romans 8:3).

The following unbiblical phrases arising from false beliefs about the death of Jesus, cause damage to the saved and the unsaved.

God poured out His wrath on Jesus in your place.

God punished Jesus in your place so that your sins can be forgiven.

Jesus paid your sin debt so you don’t have to pay it.

Jesus paid your penalty for your sin.

Jesus became sin and bore God’s punishment for your sin.

Jesus willingly took upon Himself the guilt of sinners.

Jesus died to appease the wrath of an offended God.

God’s justice demands that sin be punished.

God needs the penalty of sin to be paid.

God cannot freely forgive sin without the sin being paid for.

