

“No More Standards”

Spring is here. I love watching geese fly as they travel to their nesting grounds. I look for robins in my backyard, and buds on the trees. There is something wonderful about the fresh spring air, putting away my bulky coat that I have been wearing for the last 4 months, riding my bike, and watching my children play at the playground. Although I am one of those weird ones that like winter, we know the cold of winter is over and summer is on its way.

With spring comes new life, and new life reminds me of who I am in Christ. Have you ever thought about what the Bible says about the life you can have in Christ? A lot of people have misconceptions of what the Bible says about living life. To most people the Bible is a guidebook of life rules and regulations to follow. This false concept of the Bible causes Christians to feel convicted, keeps those who are not Christians from Christ, and frustrates those who want to follow Christ but have a hard time living up to the standards that are set.

The truth is the Bible is not a book of laws to obey, but rather how God loved you so much He sent Jesus to remove the barrier of laws between God and man. Now I can hear you say, Kevin, how can you say that when it is obvious God gave Moses the 10 commandments? Actually, God gave Moses 613 laws the Israelites were to follow, but we need to understand the purpose of these laws. The book of Romans is clear the purpose for the Law of Moses was to show the standard God requires for mankind to be good enough to be at peace with Him, and that it is impossible for man to live up to God's standards.

That's why I'm so thankful for Jesus. For without Christ, the only way to be at peace with God would be to obey the Law given to Moses. But now I can be at peace with God, not out of performing religious duties or sacrifice, but because Jesus broke the barrier the Law held at His death on the cross. I am so thankful I do not have to rely on myself to be good enough, for I know that I would fail everyday. I am thankful that I am at peace with God because Jesus is good enough and I come to God through Jesus. What freedom in life to know I do not have to measure up to somebody's standards. What freedom to know peace with God does not rely on me. The Christian life is not a struggle of being good enough. The Christian life is knowing you are good enough because of Jesus.

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