

Living by Faith in the Son of God

Galatians 2:20 - 21

Presented by Bob DeWaay  
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Implications of Crucified with Christ

**Galatians 2:20a** (HCSB)  
and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

- This does not imply loss of personal identity
- The implication is that the "I" who died to the law no longer lives (Romans 7:1)
- Romans 8:9, 10 define what this means

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Living by Faith

**Galatians 2:20b** (NASB)  
the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God

- "In the flesh" in this context means "in the body"
- Faith needs an object
- The Son of God is unique, no other is The Son in the same sense

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Loved and Redeemed

**Galatians 2:20c**  
who loved me and gave Himself up for me

- This love is shown supremely in the cross
- “For me” means substitution
- “Loved” and “gave Himself up: are aorist, active, participles

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An abhorrent idea = nullified grace

**Galatians 2:21a**  
I do not nullify the grace of God

- This continues the “may it never be” issue
- “Nullify” has legal connotations such as invalidating a treaty
- Either grace alone, or nullification!

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Works righteousness leads to an unacceptable conclusion

**Galatians 2:21b**  
for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.

- This argument takes the premise as true, then shows that it leads to a logical, but false conclusion. Therefore the premise must be false.
- The law reveals our utter poverty

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### Implications and Applications

- Living by faith implies neither mysticism nor loss of personal identity
- Faith needs an object
- If we add works to grace we nullify the gospel and insult God

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Living by faith implies neither mysticism nor loss of personal identity

1Corinthians 15:10 (NASB)

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

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Faith needs an object

John 3:16 (NASB)

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:36 (NASB)

He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

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If we add works to grace we nullify the gospel and insult God

**Romans 11:6** (NASB)

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

**Luke 18:13** (HCSB)

“But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven but kept striking his chest and saying, ‘God, turn Your wrath from me —a sinner!’”

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If we add works to grace we nullify the gospel and insult God

**Romans 3:27, 28** (NASB)

Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

- The cross insults human pride.
- The *solas* give God the glory!

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If we add works to grace we nullify the gospel and insult God

**Galatians 5:4** (NASB)

You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

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