

Eternal Life That Only Comes by Grace

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Scriptures:

- John 3:1-7, 10, 13-17
- Romans 5:12
- Romans 3:19, 31
- Galatians 3:23, 24
- 2 Corinthians 3:15, 16
- Romans 7:5
- Romans 7:5, *NLT*
- Galatians 5:23
- Numbers 21:5-9

Summary:

*God wants us to enjoy abundant life. This is only possible by being born again and experiencing a new birth on the spiritual level. New life isn't possible by following the Law of Moses, which only brings death. This point is reinforced in the Bible when Nicodemus, a Jewish leader and teacher of Mosaic Law, came to Jesus confessing his faith. Jesus didn't come to teach sinful man how to live right by God; what is necessary—which is impossible under the law—is a new life with a new nature capable of pleasing God. No matter how hard we work, the law can never save us or get us into heaven; only our acceptance of Jesus and our faith in His grace can. Deciding to get saved brings a radical transformation, from us working for God to **Him** working for **us**.*

Notes:

1. Nicodemus, a religious leader, knew about the law, but not how to gain eternal life. Under the law, man tries to reach up to heaven; under grace, God reaches down to fallen man.
2. The law only shows us our shortcomings. Nicodemus had a spiritual veil over his heart. Despite the religious teachers, the law had no life-giving power. No one could get born again under the law. The Old Testament points to Jesus Christ.
3. The flesh is always at odds with the spirit. Biblical references to “the flesh” always relate to the law; the flesh is a mindset hostile to God and to the things of the spirit.

Category: grace

Keywords: abundant life, born again, new birth, faith, grace, save, saved, transformation