

FAITH OR LEGALISM

I Samuel 14

And He (Jesus) said to them, "Where is your faith?" Luke 8:25

"But the people who know their God shall be strong and do great things." Dan. 11:32

(v.2) Saul prefers the comfort zone

Gibeah: a Hill (Strong's)

Migron: Fear (Hitchcock's)

A Legalist trusts in something rather than someone (v.18)

A Legalist Seeks God only When Necessary (v. 19)

A Legalist Leads by Intimidation and Fear (v.24)

Not that we lord it over your faith, but are workers with you for your joy; for in your faith you are standing firm. 2 Corinthians 1:24

A Legalist sets and follows Man's Standard (v.24)

...So none of the people tasted food. (v.24)

Definition: A legalist has a LEGAL LIST

Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: ²¹"Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? ²²These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. ²³Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence. Colossians 2:20-23 (NIV)

Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 1 Peter 2:16 (NIV)

Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this – not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way. ¹⁴I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. ¹⁵For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died. ¹⁶Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil; Romans 14:13-16

Legalism causes people to miss God's Blessings (v.25)

Legalism Makes life DIFFICULT for People (vs.26-30)

...the men of Israel were hard-pressed (v. 24)

...the people were weary (v. 28)

...and the people were very weary (v.31)

A legalistic relationship is based upon Performance

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God –
not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8 -9*

Legalism limits what God wanted to do. (v.30)

For now the slaughter among the philistines has not been great. (v. 30)

Legalism Keeps Man's Command But not God's (v.31)

"Only you shall not eat the blood; you are to pour it out on the ground like water. Deuteronomy 12:16

"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35

Saul only Seeks God for Personal Gain (vs. 36-37)

Cursed be the man who eats food before evening, and until I have avenged myself on my enemies (v.24)

A Legalist is secretly Jealous of others (v.38)

Legalist is characterized by Wrong Priorities (vs. 40-44)