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# CHRIST'S TEST OR HIS CURE?

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(editing by Kathy Boynton)

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Many of us have used medical tests to diagnose disease. These tests only reveal disease. They don't cure it.

God designed His law as a perfect test of righteousness. He knows that, because of man's fall in the Garden of Eden, none of us can pass that test. Every time we try, we demonstrate how far short of His righteous standard we fall. Our problem is sin, and God's law was designed to reveal that.

Some liken God's law to a game of horseshoes in which it's O.K. just to get "close." In reality, however, none of us even do that. God's standard is absolute perfection. Regarding this He says,

*"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."* (James 2:10)

God gave us the law, not as a means to earn mercy, but as a test, or "schoolmaster" to show us that our need for mercy is so great we can't earn it.

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*"...if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, ... Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."* (Galatians 3:21-22, 25).

Each December, many of us celebrate Christ's birth. Born of a virgin, He was and is God in the flesh. He, only, is perfect and holy. He was born to die as the pure and perfect blood sacrifice to "... save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

This season, will you enjoy Jesus merely as a cute, little, adorable, baby? Perhaps you may be using Him as a sales gimmick to round out year-end revenues. Such views of Christ miss the whole point of His coming. He, alone, is the only Savior!

Are you trying to earn salvation, or have you been convinced that Christ has already done that for all who cry to Him for mercy?

Don't try to use Christ's righteousness-test to

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