

UNNATURAL

SUPERNATURAL LIVING
IN A NATURAL WORLD

ROMANS 8:3-4 [NLT]

³ The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. ⁴ He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

BIG IDEA

God does the work that's needed to help us **both** believe in & behave like Jesus.

The thing Jesus lives for, the purpose of his entire life, is to make us holy, fulfilling "the righteous requirements of the law."

~ Dr. Timothy Keller

Religion = the rules we have to follow to make God happy with us and to make ourselves acceptable to him.

Moralism = the belief that keeping the right rules will give us peace and joy and make us right with God. In other words: we perform well in exchange for his approval & acceptance.

3 Things God Sent To Save Us & Change Us

1. He sent us his rules to _____ our natural weakness.
(in reflecting God's image)

3 The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature.

2. He sent us his Son to _____ the penalty for our misbehaving.

3 ... So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins.

3. He sent us his Spirit to _____ our weak nature with unnatural spiritual power.

4 He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

➔ Let your real Christlikeness be generated by your _____ of heart and not your fear of punishment.

- ▶ Notice & _____ weak & wrong motives for demanding Christlike behavior of yourself or someone else:
 - **Fear.** I'm afraid God will punish me or won't accept me if I misbehave.
 - **Pride.** I'm primarily concerned about my reputation or I'm expecting a reward for doing what God expects.

- ▶ Notice & _____ when the Spirit...
 - draws your heart up to God and to do everything that pleases him.
 - moves in your heart to trust that God is enough to satisfy you.
 - arouses your thirst for Jesus.