

## Prophets (6)

which leads other people to think that they believe that at some period people were saved by keeping the law. Now, of course, any such view would be an utterly heretical view, and an unChristian view, but I do not know of anybody who actually believes that anyone has ever been saved by keeping the law. I've never met anybody who believed such a thing and every writer whom I've heard accused of it has somewhere in his writing explicitly made the statement that no one ever has been saved or ever will be saved except through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, except through the lamb of God, but there are individuals who have been rather unfortunate in some of their expressions in certain places which sound as if they thought that people were saved through keeping the law. That's not what they mean. When you talk with them you find that they mean that the way presented to be saved was through keeping the law but of course nobody succeeded in keeping the law and therefore those people who were saved were saved through the death of Christ, but they were given an opportunity to be saved through keeping the law. Well, of course, that is an utterly erroneous view. The Scripture nowhere says that the law was given as a means of salvation. It is very clearly taught that the law was given to a people already saved in order to show them the type of righteous life which they might live. It was given as a means of sanctification, not as a means of justification; it was given to a justified people in order to do two things--to show them the road of salvation and to illustrate in typical form great truths about salvation, and of course the important part in the law which the sacrifices play, all of it relates to the death of Christ on Calvary. No one was ever saved, as the <sup>book of</sup> Hebrews tells us, by the blood of bulls and goats, but by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ which the blood of bulls and goats typified and exemplified in advance, so that, if there is anyone who believes that people have been saved at some time in the past or will be saved at some time in the future from some other cause than through the death of Christ on Calvary, such a man is not standing on Christian ground. He may be, himself, saved; if he believes that he is saved through the death of Christ on Calvary, he is, of course, a saved man, but he is not on Christian