

Is Legalism Sabotaging Your Walk With Jesus? The Hidden Trap Few Talk About

Has legalism kept you from pursuing the fullness of your relationship with Jesus?

In an interview on His Glory's Take Five with Pastor Dave Scarlett, Alexander Pagani discussed his new book, *Manipulated* and how to live free from the bondage of legalism's grips.

Pagani first started by giving a description of how none of us start off legalistic, but end up finding ourselves in this category when we start making the rules more important than the holiness of God.

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To pre-order Alexander Pagani's new book, *Manipulated*, visit .

"Sometimes these bylaws or dogmas that are designed to help us walk in holiness end up becoming the ends to the means," Pagani says. "So, the rules that are designed to help us keep the rules end up becoming the main rules."

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Pagani notes that when we add in rules that were not commanded, it can even drive us to want to break that which was given to us by God for our own benefit.

"We end up in dangerous territory, and nine out of ten times we end up violating those very laws that we put in place to

help us maintain the law," he says.

When the focus shifts from intimacy with Jesus to an obsession with rules and control, we miss the freedom and grace that the gospel offers. Christ came not to burden us with man-made regulations, but to invite us into a relationship marked by love, truth and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. True holiness flows from a heart surrendered to Him, not from fear of breaking rules or striving to measure up.

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For believers who have struggled under the weight of legalism, Pagani's message is a call to return to the simplicity of the gospel. Ask the Lord to reveal areas where rules have replaced relationship, and allow His Spirit to lead you back into the joy of knowing Him. As we embrace the freedom Jesus purchased for us on the cross, we can walk in genuine holiness—rooted in love, empowered by grace and unshaken by the shifting demands of religious tradition.

Abby Trivett is content development editor for Charisma Media.

From Jerusalem to France: Ancient Finds Reveal the Bible's Historical Truth

Archaeologists in Jerusalem's City of David and across Europe are uncovering discoveries that don't just rewrite history—they validate the faith and scriptures that have guided generations.

In Jerusalem, researchers recently uncovered a massive ancient wall that is believed to be a dam at the southern end of the City of David, a discovery reported by CBN News and confirmed by archaeologist Danny “the Digger” Herman. Dating back to 805–795 BC, this dam predates King Hezekiah by nearly 200 years. Evidence suggests it was likely constructed to manage flash floods and secure Jerusalem’s water supply.

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Herman suggest that centuries later, King Hezekiah would expand this infrastructure, creating the Hezekiah Tunnel and the Pool of Siloam, famously the site where Jesus performed the miracle of healing a blind man as recorded in John 9.



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Adding to Jerusalem’s historical depth, archaeologists also discovered a rare 2,200-year-old golden coin near the City of David, as noted by CBN News. The coin, minted in Egypt under Bernice II, bears symbols of fertility and demonstrates Jerusalem’s prominence during the Hellenistic period, a time often overlooked between the First and Second Temple eras. “This coin proves that Jerusalem was not just a backwater—it was a vital, thriving center of politics and culture,” Israeli tour guide Yoav Rotem said.

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Meanwhile, in Europe, archaeologists in Vence, France, unearthed a 1,500-year-old cathedral and baptistery, reported by the Christian Post. This site, dating potentially all the way back to the fifth century, includes cathedral foundations and a baptismal basin, highlighting early Christian worship

practices shortly after the fall of the Western Roman Empire. These finds shed light on how faith communities thrived and maintained spiritual devotion even in turbulent times.

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From the advanced water systems of ancient Jerusalem to the ceremonial baptisms of early medieval France, these discoveries remind believers that God's hand is evident in human history. They illustrate how divine providence and human ingenuity often intersected to sustain communities and protect life. Each dig, each coin, each ancient structure reminds us that Scripture is alive, real, and rooted in the world God created and continues to work through today.

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Pray: At Least 2 Children Killed in Catholic School Shooting

At least two children have died after a tragic shooting took place at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis.

On Wednesday, 17 people people were shot at in the Catholic school, including 14 children as Fox News reported. Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara confirmed two children, ages 8 and 10, have died. O'Hara also believes at this time that the shooter used three different weapons: a pistol, shotgun and a rifle.

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The incident happened during the school's mass to celebrate the first week of school, as CNN noted. The suspect shot through the windows at those who were seated in the pews. The suspect later took their own life inside of the back of the church.



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As Fox 9 reported, the suspect was in their and did not have a long record of criminal behavior. Earlier this morning Hennepin Healthcare confirmed 11 patients were at the hospital from their injuries, which included nine children ages 6 to 14.

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President Donald Trump made a statement on Truth Social about the shooting, writing, "I have been fully briefed on the tragic shooting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The FBI quickly responded and they are on the scene. The White House will continue to monitor this terrible situation. Please join me in praying for everyone involved!"

Vice President J.D. Vance also gave an update on social media about the situation, stating, "We're at the WH monitoring the situation in Minneapolis. Join all of us in praying for the victims!"

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz further said that he was praying for those impacted by this devastating situation as well.

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I've been briefed on a shooting at Annunciation Catholic School and will continue to provide updates as we get more information. The BCA and State Patrol are on scene.

I'm praying for our kids and teachers whose first week of school was marred by this horrific act of violence.

Pray for all those who have been injured, lost a loved one or is experiencing the traumatic toll of this event.

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Charlie Kirk Drops Faith-Filled Marriage Advice for Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce

As the pop culture world erupts at the news that Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce are now engaged, conservative advocate and commentator Charlie Kirk is sending his well wishes and best advice to the couple.

In an episode of The Charlie Kirk Podcast, Kirk celebrated the news, hoping that this change in Swift and Kelce's lives would also have them re-evaluate their morals and values.

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"...Reject feminism, submit to your husband, Taylor. You're not in charge," Kirk advises. "You got to change your name; if not, you don't really mean it."

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Kirk also points out that marriage ultimately changes a person and their future in a way nothing else will.



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"Maybe one of the reasons why Taylor Swift has been liberal over the last couple of years is that she's not yet married and doesn't have children," says Kirk. "I say this as a husband and a father. Having children changes you. Getting married changes you. And I hope that America's biggest pop star up conservatizing them."

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Kirk noted that this may be the time when Swift will "de-radicalize" herself from the progressive agenda far from the Christian and conservative values she has edged away from over the last few years.

"Deep down I think Taylor Swift was actually raised as a conservative that has gotten caught up in this kind of metropolitan, liberal stuff, and she doesn't quite have an attachment to the conservative backbone that she was raised in. But, this might re-attach her in the best possible way."

Kirk just may be right, and this is the time to pray that through their marriage, Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce would come to know the Lord and follow His ways.

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From Manipulated to Empowered: Breaking Free from Narcissistic Chains

Kenza Haddock's journey from a background in Islam to discovering freedom in Jesus is a powerful testimony of resilience, faith and divine transformation. In her conversation on the Directed Life podcast with Kap Chatfield, Haddock shares her personal experiences with narcissistic abuse, trauma and how God guided her into a ministry of healing and counseling.

Haddock explains that narcissistic abuse often manifests as repeated patterns of manipulation, control and emotional harm, typically rooted in pride and a hardened heart. She notes, "The true narcissist does not care about being the best in a godly sense. They want power, wealth and control, regardless of the cost to others." She identifies two types of narcissists: the overt, power-driven type, like Pharaoh in the Bible, and the covert, manipulative type, who subtly uses guilt and self-pity to influence others.

He further notes that Jehu's pattern involves confronting both a sitting king and an ungodly queen figure, which Cahn ties to Trump's political battles with figures like Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden. "History doesn't just repeat; it follows patterns," Cahn says. "The template of Jehu played out in 2016 and 2024."

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The author also sees prophetic meaning in the assassination attempt on Trump in Butler, Pennsylvania. Drawing from Old Testament priestly rituals, he points out how the anointing of

a leader involved blood touching the right ear and right thumb—exactly what happened to Trump when he raised his hand to his wounded ear. To Cahn, this was a sign that God preserved Trump’s life and granted America a reprieve.

This message challenges believers to remain discerning, rooted in Scripture, and aware of the unseen forces shaping our world. Rather than fear, this moment calls for prayer, steadfast faith and a renewed focus on God’s truth as history moves toward its prophetic culmination.

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Red Heifers, Nephilim and the Third Temple: What This Means for the Last Days

A recent prophetic word from Amanda Grace gives a striking warning for the nation, highlighting a season of exposure, upheaval and spiritual realignment.

At the forefront of her word is a warning concerning the Mormon Church. Grace declares, “Watch the Mormon Church... [an] enormous scandal that pales in comparison to the checkered past is set to come out. The Mormons have joined with the Muslim... their root has intertwined and this shall be exposed. Collapse is coming.” This suggests that hidden alliances and doctrinal entanglements are reaching a breaking point, and a moment of reckoning is imminent.

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Grace's prophetic word also warns of political intrigue and sabotage at the highest levels of government. Specific mention is made of "what has been set in motion to attempt to take down the president, the vice [president] and Marco Rubio... a trifecta shall be caught... however, they shall get close." Grace's word also points to internal disruption within Congress, warning that "there are plants... leaders of committees... who are purposefully acting as stumbling blocks to sabotage the accomplishment set in motion. The House is compromised."

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Underlying these revelations is a broader theme of changing leadership and spiritual alignment. Grace explains, "For this is a time... that a great changing of the guard... the old wine skins are passing away... for the old ranks were not equipped for this new operation that My children are being repositioned to battle." Believers are being called to step into their roles with boldness, recognizing that they are uniquely equipped for this critical season.

Ultimately, Grace's word is a call to action: believers are not merely observers but active participants in resisting destructive plans. "Brace yourselves...the kingdom of darkness [has] suffered woundings... when they are wounded, they can be the most dangerous."

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Prayer, discernment and spiritual readiness are essential

tools in navigating this tumultuous season. As the old systems pass away, a new generation is rising—ready to confront the challenges and see God’s plans unfold.

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Is the Pre-Tribulation Rapture a Myth? What the Bible Really Says