

Leaning On Grace Too Hard

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I. Today we'll look at God's expectations of his children, who are under Grace, and how those expectations can be fulfilled.

II. Let's begin by asking what is God's Law.

- A. Written revelation of the will of God in the Old Testament (per Holman Bible Dictionary).
 - i. Torah is the Hebrew word for law.
 - ii. The translation of the word law varied; such as, for a commandment, a word, a decree, a judgment, a custom or a prohibition.
- B. The first five books of the bible (Pentateuch) are known as the books of the Law because they are based on the commandments God revealed to Moses.
 - i. God promised a blessing if Israel obeyed his commandments (Ex 19:5-6).
 - ii. These laws came to cover all areas of community life.
 - iii. There was some oral elaboration on the Law in the New Testament referred to as the traditions of the elders (Mark 7:5).
- C. You might say the Law is very complicated, but Jesus simplified it for us with two commandments (Mat 22:4).
- D. Is the Law good? Yes (Rom 7:12).
- E. Can anyone keep it? No, we are incapable of fulfilling the Law (Rom 7:14).
- F. What is one purpose of the Law? It leads us to Christ. (Gal 3:24).

III. Christ fulfills the Law of sacrifice for sin (the Gospel).

- A. Man is dead spiritually from sin.
- B. God gives faith to men he chooses for salvation.

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C. By faith given of God, man puts his trust in Jesus's work on the cross to satisfy God's Law of sacrifice for sin.

D. The righteousness of Jesus is imputed to that man (Justification). (Rom 4:3).

IV. Christ fulfills other laws of God.

A. There is an expectation of God beyond Christ sacrifice for sin.

i. Rom 6:15, "What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace?"

By no means!"

ii. Grace does not mean a watered down sanctified life. Do not lean too hard on grace.

B. God expects us to keep his commandments & states it throughout the bible--not just OT (Romans 13:8-9; Matt 7:12; 1 John 2:4).

C. Christ reinforces God's expectations. (Mt 5:17-18)

D. Christ reminds us of His authority & what He is capable of. Shown throughout Mt 5-7.

E. It's not about your righteousness, but Christ's. Continuing our reading on the commandments Romans 13:14.

V. Summary

A. Understand that Christ came to fulfill his Father's complete will, not just satisfying the Law of sacrifice for sins.

B. His expectation is 1 Peter 1:16, "since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'".

C. He understands it is a fight. (Mt 5:29).