

## What You Must Know About the Law

For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. **I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.** Galatians 2:19-21 NKJ

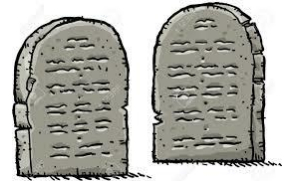
**Religion wants us to believe we are not good enough and are not right with God unless we are keeping the Law.** This misconception nullifies grace, creating the false belief that God is disappointed with us, compelling us to strive for His approval by fulfilling requirements and restrictions. **A religious mindset may cause you to anxiously work for what you already possess in Christ.** The believer's blessing is the gift of the Holy Spirit, received at birth. You are inherently and eternally blessed in Christ already.

1. God added the Law to show us our need for Christ.

- The Law has become our tutor to lead us until Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. Galatians 3:24

2. Trying to keep the Law to be right with God increases sin.

- But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin is dead. Romans 7:8
- The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more. Romans 5:20
- For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death. Romans 7:5
- I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died. Romans 7:9
- The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:56-57



3. The Law will not help you or give you confidence to approach God.

- By the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin. Romans 3:20
- For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near. Hebrews 10:1
- The Law made nothing perfect, and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. Hebrews 7:19

4. The Law tells you what to do but doesn't enable you to keep the commands.

- For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh. Romans 8:3

5. Righteousness (right standing with God) must be by faith and not through the works of the Law.

- For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law. Romans 3:28
- But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe. Romans 3:21-22

6. Through co-crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, you died to the Law as a means of trying to earn God's love and acceptance.

- You also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. Romans 7:4
- For Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Romans 10:4
- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

**Now that you are in Christ, you have a brand-new way of living by the Spirit.** Christ made you righteous and seated you in Heavenly places, giving you access to the Father. You can confidently approach God based on your righteousness in Christ. **Instead of struggling to be good enough for God, you can enjoy fellowship with your Father and expect His help.**

For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. John 1:17

7. You are under grace (Christ's power), which teaches you to say "no" to ungodliness.
  - For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under Law but under grace. Romans 6:14
  - For the grace of God has appeared, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age. Titus 2:12
8. God sent His Son to fulfill the Law in and through you. You are not on your own!
  - [Christ lives in us] so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:4
  - Jesus said, "But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God." John 3:21
  - For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Philippians 2:13
9. The Spirit now leads you while Christ manifests the Law of love in and through you.
  - [The Lord foretells the blessing of the New Covenant] "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances." Ezekiel 36:26-27
  - For all who are being led by the Spirit, these are sons of God. Romans 8:14
10. The Spirit always produces life and peace.
  - The Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the Law of sin and death. Romans 8:2
  - For the mindset on the flesh is death, but the mindset on the Spirit is life and peace. Romans 8:6
11. You now live by a higher law.
  - Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the Law. Romans 13:10
12. Since no one can live perfectly, what will happen if you don't follow the Law?
  - In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. Romans 8:26
  - He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things. Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Romans 8:32-34
  - Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the Law of sin and of death. Romans 8:1-2
  - For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:15-16

**Christians tend to focus on adhering to the Law rather than placing their hope in the grace offered through Christ** (1 Peter 1:13). The Law is fulfilled in those who walk by the Spirit rather than the works of the Law and flesh. You can let go of the Law. There is no life in the Law anyway. God has not asked you to earn your salvation or His blessings. Don't complicate grace. The same simple faith that brought you salvation also unleashes God's power within you. **Rejoice and anchor your hope in Christ, the author and perfecter of your faith.**

It was for freedom that Christ has set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to the yoke [Law] of slavery. Galatians 5:1