

Growing In Christ

Lesson #10 The Law and the Gospel

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"Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:3-4, NKJV).

The Hebrew word *torah* means 'direction' or 'guidance'. The New Testament uses the Greek, *nomos*, (law) to translate *torah*.

Psalm 40:8 (NKJV) *I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart.*"

***Matthew 7:21** (NKJV) *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.*

Two Laws

Deuteronomy 4:13–14 (NKJV) *So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone. And the Lord commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that you might observe them in the land which you cross over to possess.*

Exodus 21:1 (NKJV) *"Now these are the judgments which you shall set before them:*

2 Kings 21:8 (NKJV) *and I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers—only if they are careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them."*

2 Chronicles 33:8 (NKJV) ⁸ *and I will not again remove the foot of Israel from the land which I have appointed for your fathers—only if they are careful to do all that I have commanded them, according to the whole law and the statutes and the ordinances by the hand of Moses."*

God's Laws and Regulations

Psalm 19:7–8 (NKJV) ⁷ *The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;* ⁸ *The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;*

***Romans 7:12** (NKJV) *Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.*

Psalm 119:151–152 (NKJV) *You are near, O Lord, And all Your commandments are truth. Concerning Your testimonies, I have known of old that You have founded them forever.*

Freedom does not mean I am able to do whatever I want to do. That's the worst kind of bondage. Freedom means I have been set free to become all that God wants me to be, to achieve all that God wants me to achieve, to enjoy all that God wants me to enjoy.- Warren Wiersbe

God's Character and His Law

Law Of Liberty

***James 1:25** *But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*

James 2:11-12 *For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.*

Psa 119:44-45 *So shall I keep Your law continually, Forever and ever. And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.*

Romans 6:15–16 *What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*

John 8:34-36 *Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. "And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.*

2 Peter 2:18–19 (NKJV) *For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error.¹⁹ While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.*

***1 Cor 8:9** *But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.*

Gal 5:13 *For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.*

The Moral Law Today

Genesis 4:6–7 (NKJV) *So the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?”⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”*

***Genesis 26:5 (NKJV)** *because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.”*

Genesis 39:8–9 *But he refused and said to his master’s wife, “Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand.⁹ There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?”*

“Though Christ is said to have fulfilled the law for us, yet it is nowhere intimated in the Scripture that he has so fulfilled these Ten Laws, as to exempt us from the necessity and privilege of being no idolaters, swearers, Sabbath-breakers, disobedient and cruel children, murderers, adulterers, thieves, and corrupt witnesses. All these commandments, it is true, he punctually fulfilled himself; and all these he writes on the heart of every soul redeemed by his blood.” –A. Clark

The Law and the Gospel

Psalms 119:5–6 (NKJV) ⁵ *Oh, that my ways were directed To keep Your statutes!* ⁶ *Then I would not be ashamed, When I look into all Your commandments.*

Romans 3:19–20 (NKJV) *Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

Romans 4:15 (NKJV) *because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression.*

The Sabbath and the Law

Exodus 20:8–10 (NKJV) *“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,¹⁰ but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.*

Nehemiah 9:13–14 (NKJV) *“You came down also on Mount Sinai,*

And spoke with them from heaven, And gave them just ordinances and true laws, Good statutes and commandments. You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, And commanded them precepts, statutes and laws, By the hand of Moses Your servant.

Law reflects but in no sense determines the moral worth of a society. The values of a reasonably just society will reflect themselves in a reasonably just law. The better the society, the less law there will be. In Heaven there will be no law, and the lion will lie down with the lamb. The values of an unjust society will reflect themselves in an unjust law. The worse the society, the more law there will be. --Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

The Sabbath and the Gospel

Colossians 2:13–14 (NKJV) ¹³ *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

Eph. 2:15: *having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances,...*

***2 Chronicles 33:8 (NKJV)** —*only if they are careful to do all that I have commanded them, according to the whole law and the statutes and the ordinances by the hand of Moses.”*

Deuteronomy 31:26 (NKJV) *“Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there as a witness against you;*

Exodus 20:11 (NKJV) ¹¹ *For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.*

2 Chronicles 34:14 (NKJV) *Now when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the Lord given by Moses.*

2 Peter 3:15–17 (NKJV) ¹⁵ *and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,¹⁶ as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.¹⁷ You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;*

The Ten Commandments: A Transcript of God's Character

God is JUST - Romans 3:26.	His law is JUST - Romans 7:12.
God is TRUE - John 3:33.	His law is TRUE - Nehemiah 9:13.
God is PURE - 1 John 3:3.	His law is PURE - Psalm 19:7,8.
God is LIGHT - 1 John 1:5.	His law is LIGHT - Proverbs 6:23.
God is FAITHFUL - 1 Corinthians 1:9.	His law is FAITHFUL - Psalms 119:86.
God is GOOD - Nahum 1:7.	His law is GOOD - Romans 7:12,16.
God is SPIRITUAL - John 4:24.	His law is SPIRITUAL - Romans 7:14.
God is HOLY - Isaiah 6:3, 1 Peter 1:15.	His law is HOLY - Exodus 20:8, Romans 7:12.
God is TRUTH - John 14:6.	His law is TRUTH - Psalms 119:142,151.
God is LIFE - John 14:6.	His law is LIFE - Matthew 19:17.
God is RIGHTEOUSNESS - Jeremiah 23:6.	His law is RIGHTEOUSNESS- Psalm 119:172.
God is PERFECT - Matthew 5:48.	His law is PERFECT - James 1:25.
God is ETERNAL - John 8:35.	His law is ETERNAL - Psalms 111:7,8.
God is PEACE - Isaiah 9:6.	His law is PEACE - Psalm 119:165.
God is THE WAY - John 14:6	His law is THE WAY - Psalm 119:30-32
God is SURE - 2 Timothy 2:19	His law is SURE - Psalm 19:7, 111:7,8
God is UNCHANGING - Malachi 3:6	His law is UNCHANGING - Psalm 111:7,8
God is SWEET - Psalm 34:8	His law is SWEET - Psalm 19:10, 119:103
God is WISE - Psalm 111:10	His law is WISE - Psalm 19:7
God is OUR MEDITATION - Psalm 63:6	His law is OUR MEDITATION - Psalm 1:2
God is JUDGE - Psalm 50:6	His law is JUDGE - James 2:12
God is ENLIGHTENMENT - Psalm 18:27	His law is ENLIGHTENMENT - Psalm 19:8
God is LOVE - 1 John 4:7,8	His law is LOVE - Romans 13:8-10
God is CLEAN - Psalm 19:9	His law is CLEAN - Ezekiel 22:26
God is BLESSED - Psalm 28:6	His law is BLESSED - Exodus 20:11
God is DELIGHT - Psalm 37:4	His law is DELIGHT - Psalm 1:2
God is WONDERFUL - Isaiah 9:6	His law is WONDERFUL - Psalm 119:18
God is LIBERTY - Isaiah 61:1	His law is LIBERTY-James 1:25, Psalm 119:45
God is COMFORT - Psalm 23:4	His law is COMFORT - Psalm 119:50
God is OUR SONG - Revelation 15:3	His law is OUR SONG - Psalm 119:54
God is MERCIFUL - Exodus 34:5	His law is MERCIFUL - Psalm 119:58
God is KNOWLEDGE - Isaiah 11:2	His law is KNOWLEDGE - Psalm 119:66
God is HOPE - Psalm 130:7	His law is HOPE - Psalm 119:74
God is LIFE - Psalm 36:9	His law is LIFE - Proverbs 3:1,2
God is SOUND - Proverbs 8:13,14	His law is SOUND - Psalm 119:80
God is UNDERSTANDING - Psalm 147:5	His law is UNDERSTANDING - Psalm 119:99
God is HAPPINESS - Psalm 146:5	His law is HAPPINESS - Proverbs 29:18
God is JOY - Psalm 16:11	His law is JOY - Psalm 119:162