

203 – Law and Grace

I. Introduction: Understanding the difference between law and grace is just as essential as understanding our identity in Christ if a Christian is going to experience a victorious life.

A. The Law –

1. Its foundation is _____
2. It also includes the _____ and _____ that follow it.
3. The law system is _____
4. It is an _____ system.

B. Grace –

1. Being blessed by God no longer depends on a Christian's _____
2. A Christian cannot be _____ by God because of performance or behavior.
3. The grace system is clearly explained in _____.
4. It is a _____ system.

II. The Biblical basis for Law

A. Who is under the _____ system?

1. Every person _____ into this world.
2. All _____
3. All who are _____

B. When did every person _____ the law system?

1. Because we were all in Adam, we all entered into the law system the moment _____ from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

2. At that moment, we _____ the law system of being blessed for performing (or behaving) right and of being cursed for performing (or behaving) evil.

C. What can the law system _____?

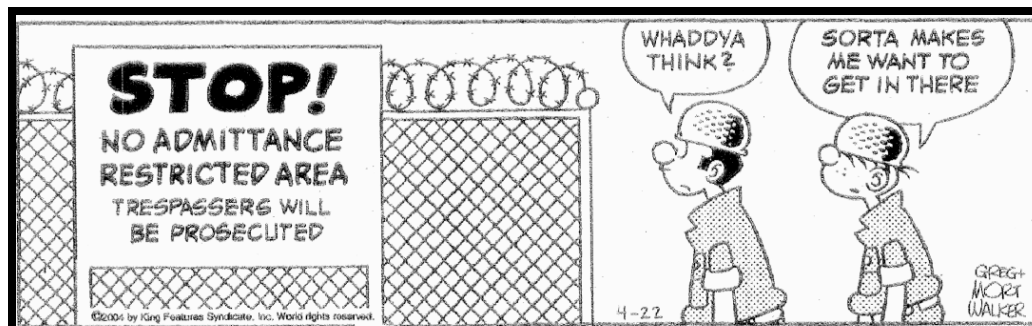
1. Give _____. Gal. 3:21
2. Change your _____
3. Make you _____

D. What then is the _____ of the Law?

1. To show non-Christians that their identity is that of a _____
2. To show non-Christians that they need something _____ than the law to have a relationship with God.

E. Is the Law bad?

F. What happens when a person attempts to live under a Law system



G. What does attempting to _____ the Law produce?

1. _____ and _____ for those who can perform it. (Phil. 3:6)
2. _____ and _____ for those who cannot perform it. (II Cor. 3:6-9, James 2:10)
3. _____ and _____ for those who cannot perform it

H. What _____ is the Law a part of?

I. What is it like to be _____ to Mr. Law? Rom. 7:1-7

1. He always tells you _____.
2. He always shows you _____.
3. He never lifts a finger to _____.
4. You can never do _____ to please him.
5. He is always _____

J. Was the Law ever intended to stop us from sinning?

III. The Biblical basis for Grace

A. Who is under the _____ system?

B. Are Christians _____ the law system?

What is the point, then, of the law, the attached addendum? It was a thoughtful addition to the original covenant promises made to Abraham. The purpose of the law was to keep a sinful people in the way of salvation until Christ (the descendant) came, inheriting the promises and distributing them to us. Obviously this law was not a firsthand encounter with God. It was arranged by angelic messengers through a middleman, Moses. But if there is a middleman as there was at Sinai, then the people are not dealing directly with God, are they? But the original promise is the direct blessings of God, received by faith.

If such is the case, is the law, then, an anti-promise, a negative of God's will for us? Not at all. Its purpose was to make obvious to everyone that we are, in ourselves, out of right relationship with God, and therefore to show us the futility of devising some religious system for getting by on our own efforts what we can only get by waiting in faith for God to complete His promise. For if any kind of rule keeping had power to create life in us, we would certainly have gotten it by this time.

Until the time when we were mature enough to respond freely in faith to the living God, we were carefully surrounded and protected by the Mosaic law. The law was like those Greek tutors, with which you are familiar, who escort children to school and protect them from danger or distraction, making sure the children will really get to the place they set out for.

But now you have arrived at your destination: By faith in Christ you are in direct relationship with God. Your baptism in Christ was not just washing you up for a fresh start. It also involved dressing you in an adult faith wardrobe – Christ's life, the fulfillment of God's original purpose.

Gal. 3:19-27 The Message

C. How did God get us out of the law system and into the grace system?

1. Jesus _____ the law as a man. (Matt. 5:17)
2. Jesus' death as a man provided _____ for all of my past, present and future "unfulfillments" of the law. (I Peter 2:22)
3. Jesus' death as a man provided for the sinner who was married to the law to _____ along with Him. (Rom. 7:1-4a)
4. In Jesus' resurrection, a _____ is born who is out from under the law system and under the grace system. (Romans 6:14, 7:4b)
5. God took us out of _____ and placed us into _____. (Romans 5:12-21)

D. Some common terms used by Christians today in place of law.

E. Some common terms for grace.

F. What resource is someone using when he/she attempts to _____ to the law?

G. What two things did man need to be _____ from in order to live in victory?

H. What is the difference between OT laws and NT commands?

1. NT commands tell us to live like _____.
2. NT commands do not bring _____ with them like OT laws.

I. What is the one commandment that encapsulates the entire new covenant?

1. _____ God and _____ people. (Mark 12:30-31)

J. What is the law of Christ?

K. What causes us to experience the blessings of the grace system?

1. _____ in Christ as our life.
2. _____ and _____ by our sovereign God.
3. All of our blessings in the grace system are found in _____

L. Why is understanding grace along with identity so important? Romans 5:17

1. It produces _____ Christian living.
2. It avoids _____

IV. Practical Applications

A. Christian Discipline

1. Are "quiet times" out of the law system or the grace system?
2. What about prayer and Bible study?
3. Is tithing out of the law system or the grace system?

B. Holiness (or sanctification)

1. What does it mean to live a _____ life?
2. How do most Christians attempt to _____ sinning?
3. Are Christians free to sin?
4. Do Christians want to sin in the depth of their being?
5. What would you tell a Christian who wants to stop smoking, but can't?
6. What would you tell a Christian who wants to stop sexual lusting, but can't?
7. What do you say to people who say, "I don't have to go to church"? "I don't have to read my Bible anymore."
8. What about obedience?

IV. Conclusion

A. A Law-based lifestyle _____ us

B. Grace _____ us

C. Grace is _____

D. Grace _____ us – Heb. 13:9

E. Grace _____ us – Titus 2:11-12

F. Grace is always _____

Law vs. Grace

Law

Do

Man does

Flesh

Man's Resources

External regulations, rules, standards

Ought to, should, have to, must

Bondage, duty, obligation

Outside – in

Do in order to be

Defeat, guilt, condemnation

Achieve, try harder, work, effort

Deuteronomy 28:1

Romans 3:19

Matthew 5:48

Grace

Done

God does

Spirit

God's Resources

Inner Heart Attitude

Want to

Freedom

Inside – out

You are therefore you do

Victory, Security, Acceptance

Receive, trust, abide, rest

Ephesians 1&2

Romans 5:17, 7:6

Mark 12:30-31

Galatians 6:2, 2:20

John 15:12

2 Corinthians 5:17

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