

TUESDAY**Law and Grace**

ABSG QUOTE: As we have seen, law and grace are not opposed to one another. Instead, they serve different functions in accordance with the love and justice of God. A sharp contrast between law and grace would have puzzled ancient Israelites, who saw God's giving of the law itself as a great display of God's grace. **UNQUOTE**

BACKSTORY

- Moses packed highlight reel of 2,000 yrs of history first 11 chapters of Genesis = then recorded dramatic life sketches of patriarchs to cover next 300 yrs of history
- Genesis=2300 yrs history= more than all other Bible books combined
- Not lot detail = in Genesis = In beginning / God did not find it necessary to explain His existence = ASSUMED
- God created humanity / in His image = infused His righteousness
 - His moral code of love = within them
- FALL = announced everlasting covenant = **Genesis 3:15** Deliverer
- Opened pathway of **RBF** thru = substitutionary system of sacrifice
 - pointed to coming Messiah = **Revelation 13:8**
- Patriarchs saved by grace / became heirs to RBF
- Genesis = Patriarch's kept God's 10-commandment LAW OF LOVE [read SPOTLESS]
- Since Creator/ bestowed free will/ human race = & governs by love
- His righteousness required = He define His expectations of love.
- In fairness to humanity / holy God had to define boundaries
 - of acceptable human conduct immediately.
 - installed His Ten Commandment moral code of love from beginning to protect His entitled rights as Creator
 - and rights of humankind = that love demands.
- Mount Sinai = God spoke 10-Commandments / remind people Ex 20
 - After God redeemed His people from slavery in Egypt
 - Weren't saved by law-keeping = salvation always by grace

- God gave Moses = civil/social/religious ceremonial laws = Moses wrote in book of Covenant = Old Covenant = expanded in Deut
 - Placed in outside pocket of ark = temporary
- Constitution for new nation of Israel= Included 10-commandments
- God wrote 10 Commandments w/His own finger/ 2 tablets of stone = placed inside ark = Charter of Rights = foundation/ govt of love

Psalm 37:30–31 Supposed to be in their hearts, too

³⁰The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice. ³¹The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide.

- Can't save ourselves by law-keeping

Ephesians 2:8–9 ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast.

- Law cannot change human hearts = Need spiritual heart transplant

Jeremiah 31:31–34 ³¹“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—³²not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.” **comparison w/Christ’s words/Nicodemus = John 3:1–21 new birth.**

Hebrews 8:10-12 Repeated in New Covenant ¹⁰For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD:

I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. And onward verbatim

- Jesus didn't keep 10-commandments = to become Son of God
 - Kept because He **WAS** Son of God
- We don't keep 10-commandments in order to be loved/saved
 - We keep because we are loved/saved
- **?? What is = Purpose of His Law of Love??**
 - God's law reveals His character
 - Charter of Rights = for His government of love
 - Defines = sin = breaking His boundaries of love
 - James 1:22-25, Rom 3:20, Rom 7:7
 - Shows us need of our Savior = Galatians 3:22-24
 - Guides us in His footsteps of righteousness
 - Actually 10 promises of what God will do in us

2 Thessalonians 2:16–17 ¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, ¹⁷comfort your hearts and **establish you in every good word and work.**

John 15:9–10 ⁹“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; **abide** in My love. ¹⁰If you keep My commandments, you will **abide** in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

- Keeping His LAW OF LOVE = keeps us dwelling in His love
- Obedience is not legalism = obedience is love
- Pathway to God's blessings = abundance of grace/righteousness

Romans 5:17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

- Our only hope in/ judgment = be covered by Christ's righteousness