

Walking as Jesus Walked

Introduction

Under the First Angel's Message, there was a decree to fear God. We learned that the idea of fearing God is wrapped up in obedience and the idea of giving God glory was repenting from sin, which is breaking God's law. Then we talked about baptism. All of these topics have one thing in common at their foundation: The Ten Commandments, or the Law of God.

But some say we are free from the law. Tonight we look at what the bible says about God's law.

God's Law

The idea of the law is no trivial matter. It is central to understanding the Three Angel's Messages to prepare us for the second coming of Jesus. So it makes sense that the Ten Commandments are also important.

We have looked at what it means to have faith in Jesus and how we receive it: Calvary's cross, the righteousness of Christ imputation, repentance and baptism.

*Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that **keep the commandments of God**, and the faith of Jesus Revelation 14:12*

We have to look at this statement in Revelation 14:2. We have learned how the gospel provides a righteousness that Jesus obtained for us (based on God's law and imputation). But this statement is clearly about those who keep the Ten Commandments themselves. But why do these saints keep the commandments of God? This is the underlying question at the end of time.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love John 15:10

Why did Jesus keep the commandments? Jesus loved His father and as our human example, He obeyed the Ten Commandments of God.

If ye love me, keep my commandments. John 14:15

Jesus walked in loving obedience to his father's commandments. During the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness that Satan tried to get Jesus to break God's law, as he did Adam and Eve. With the same deception he comes to Jesus after forty days of fasting when His physical body was near death. Then comes the enemy of God and begins a very deceptive tempting conversation with Jesus. The first temptation was the last sin of covetousness to want something that God has not given you.

And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matthew 4:3-4

The last temptation was the first commandment: not to have any other Gods. Jesus was tempted to break the commandments of God. But because he walked in loving obedience to His father, He did not sin or break God's law.

Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Matthew 4: 8-10

Can you see how the Devil is up to his old tricks today? Have you heard that because Jesus died for our sin,s and because Jesus kept the law for us that we do not have to obey the law of God? What does Jesus say? When he comes back from the wilderness experience, he has his first public sermon: the Sermon on the Mount. The Ten Commandments are the first thing he talks about.

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:17-19

So far from doing away with the commandments, Jesus said He came to fulfill the law. The word fulfill (pleroo) means to demonstrate something in its fullness. Jesus helps us to understand how the law is responsible for converting the soul.

The Four Levels of the Law

First: Letter of the Law

Exodus 20 (The Ten Commandments given to Moses)

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one ^[a]jot or one ^[b]tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. ¹⁹ Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:17-19

Jesus shows he is upholding the Ten Commandments.

Second: The Spirit of the Law

Jesus says, "I'm going to show you the true nature of the law."

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:20

Unless your understanding is better than the high priests, you are gone.

"You have heard that it was said ^[a]to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'²⁸ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:27-28

This shows that the Law of God goes into the mind, our thoughts and our actions. Motivation and sin begins in the mind, not just the refraining from an outward act.

Paul calls this the Spirit of the Law (Spirit means mind)

But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter. Romans 7:6

Third: The Heart of the Law

Jesus demonstrates his teaching of the law goes from the letter to the spirit and then the heart with love.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'⁴⁴ ^[a]But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, Matthew 5:43-44

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Matthew 22:36

On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 22:40

Jesus is quoting the Old Testament. So this is not a new law but a very old one.

Love God:

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5

Love your Neighbor

You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:18

Fourth: The Character of the Law

The words used to describe the law are the same as used to describe God: pure, perfect, etc.

"Christ came to our world to represent the character of God as it is represented in His holy law, for His law is a transcript of His character. Christ was both the law and the gospel." Ctr Chap 11

If you have the character of Christ (being reborn in baptism), then it will not be in your heart to break the law. If it is not in your heart it will never enter your mind and if not in your mind it will not be manifested in your works.

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? Romans 6:1

Sin is the transgression of the law. 1 John 3:4

God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Romans 6:2

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. Romans 6:12-13

This is Paul's way of fulfilling the law. Like Jesus, he is demonstrating faith and grace do not release me from obedience to the commandments. But rather, faith is calling me to obedience.

Fulfilling the Law

Why would Satan deceive our world into throwing away the Ten Commandments? We keep the commandments because we love God, because Jesus kept them and because we do not want to sin against God.

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. Romans 3:20

The law does not save you, but rather points out what sin is so that we will know that we are sinners in need of salvation and what sins are so we can repent.

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. Romans 7:12-13

The law also tells us what is right and wrong.

It is obvious we ought to walk as Jesus walked. Jesus kept the law and Paul upheld it as well.

He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. 1 John 2:6

When we don't uphold the law, we confess and God forgives us.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

The Law and Grace

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law. of the law. Romans 3:28,31

This is the Law and Grace working together in perfect harmony. The law of God is essential to the gospel because it tells us we need to ask for forgiveness. Remember we are talking about the four levels of the law.

Like spiritual ping-pong, we go between the law and grace.

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. 1 Corinthians 13:12

Jesus is the law. When we look into the law we are seeing Jesus and are to walk as He walked. We are to see where we are not walking like He walked, confess, repent and be filled with the Spirit to walk as He walked. This is the relationships between the Law and Grace. It brings about the conversion of a sinner.

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. Psalm 19:7

In doing this, we can walk with Jesus in eternity as we have walked with him on Earth. We can walk as Jesus walked if we stay in the spirit. If we keep our minds on Jesus.

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:4

We need to saturate our life so we can walk as he walked. In the word. In His music.

Set your minds on Jesus.

For they that are after the flesh set their mind on the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. Romans 8:5, 7-9

Sister White says:

“Weakened through sin, we cannot of ourselves keep the law of God. But Christ came to our world to restore the moral image of God in men, and to bring them back from the path of disobedience to a path of obedience. His mission to the world was to reveal the character of God by living the law, which is the foundation of his government; and those who will accept him as their personal Saviour will grow in grace, and in his strength will be enabled to obey the law of God.” {ST, February 11, 1897 par. 15}

The law is the basis of the new covenant.

This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Hebrews 10:16-17

End Time Messages and the Law

At the end of time, under the Third Angel’s Message, God is calling to the world that fulfills scripture.

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. Romans 3:19

When the world has become in the days of Noah. When it has become worse than Sodom and Gomorrah. At a time when the world has cast aside God's Holy law. When its precepts have been trampled, removed from courtrooms and the public eye.

God has a message that says:

*Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the **everlasting gospel** to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—Revelation 14:6*

And this relates to the law.

*Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the **commandments of God and the faith of Jesus**. Revelation 14:12*

The First Angel calls the world to the gospel, which says you are a sinner, you need God's grace, His forgiveness, His righteousness. The Third Angel says the same thing: here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. The law is lifted up, the world is condemned. They turn to Jesus who is their righteousness, who will forgive sin. But then they also keep the law because they walk as Jesus walked.

Satan hates God's law. The Third Angel's Message reveals a power with a special hatred for God's law. It also includes a grave warning against the beast power. A most solemn warning not to worship the beast.

Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Revelation 14:9-11

This was foretold by Daniel the prophet.

*He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, **And shall intend to change times and law**. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time. Daniel 7:25*

And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Revelation 12:17

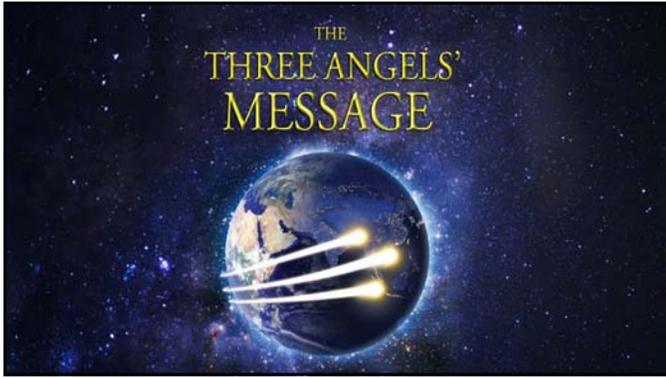
The point is, God will have an end-time people. He will have a remnant who will keep the Commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.

*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 Colossians 2:14*

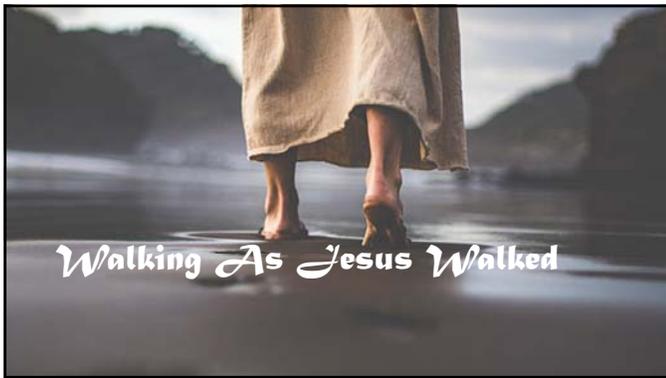
So it was, when Moses had completed writing the words of this law in a book, when they were finished, that Moses commanded the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying: "Take

*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**; Deuteronomy 31:24-26*

Deuteronomy tells us what was nailed to the cross. The books of Moses contain various aspects of sacrifice. The system of ceremonies was nailed to the cross because we have more perfect sacrifice.



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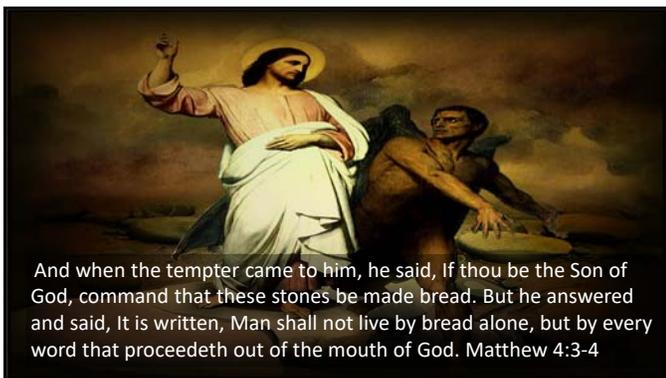
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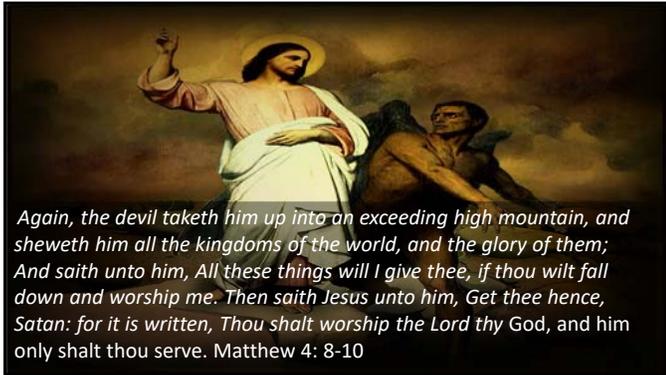
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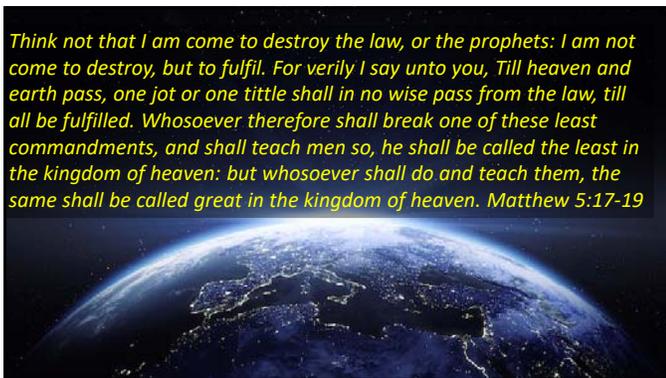


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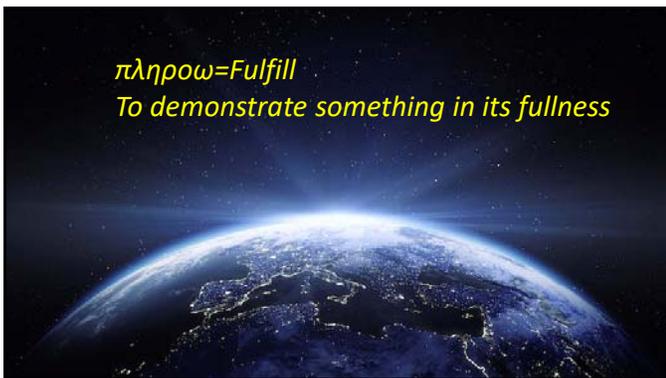
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*πληρω= Fulfill
To demonstrate something in its fullness*

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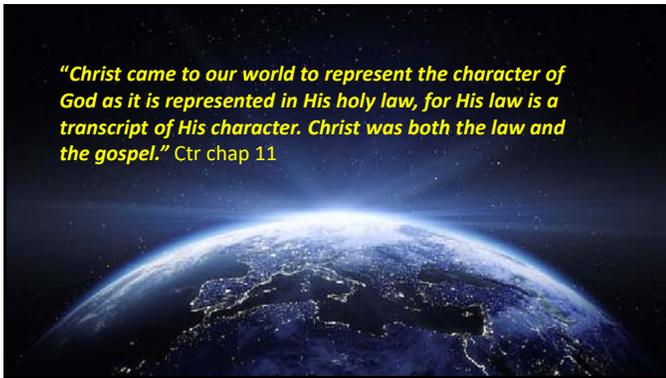
Four Levels of the Law

1. **The Letter of the Law**
Exodus 20, Matthew 5:17-19
2. **The Spirit of the Law**
Matthew 5:27-28, Romans 7:6
3. **The Heart of the Law**
Matthew 5:43-44, 22:36, 40
4. **The Character of the Law**
1 John 4:7-8, Romans 13:10



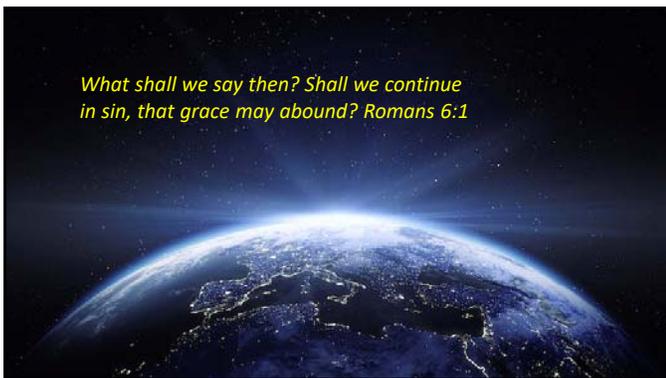
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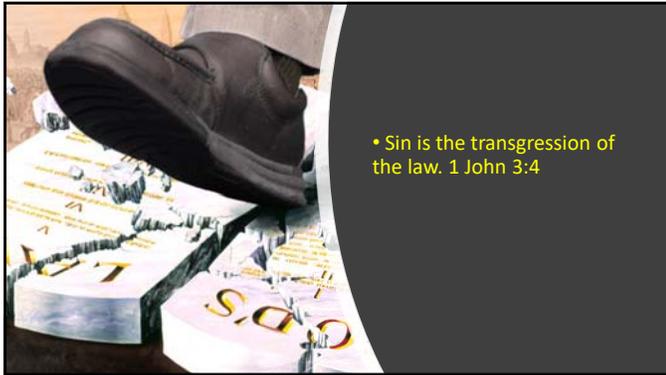


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What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? Romans 6:1

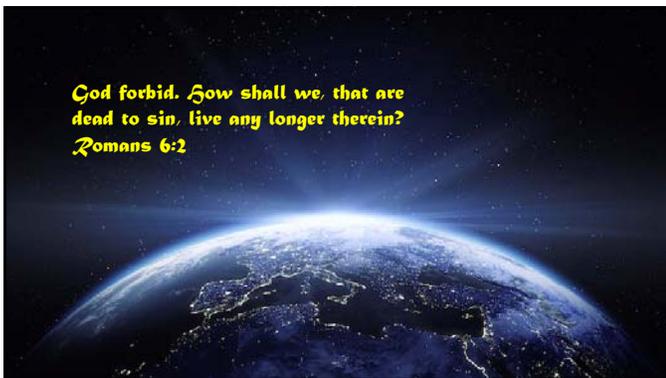


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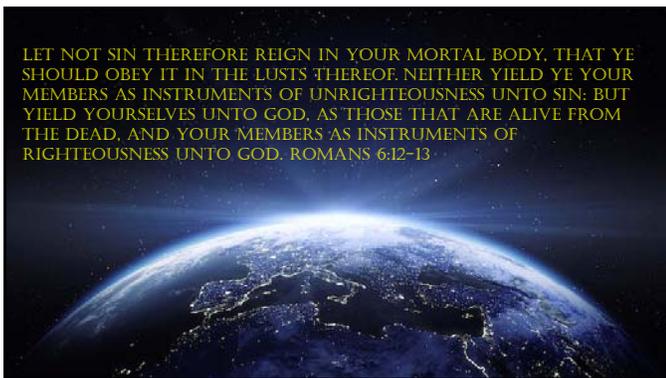
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God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
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14



LET NOT SIN THEREFORE REIGN IN YOUR MORTAL BODY, THAT YE SHOULD OBEY IT IN THE LUSTS THEREOF, NEITHER YIELD YE YOUR MEMBERS AS INSTRUMENTS OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS UNTO SIN; BUT YIELD YOURSELVES UNTO GOD, AS THOSE THAT ARE ALIVE FROM THE DEAD, AND YOUR MEMBERS AS INSTRUMENTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS UNTO GOD. ROMANS 6:12-13

15

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. Romans 3:20



16

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet Romans 7:7



17

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. Romans 7:12-13

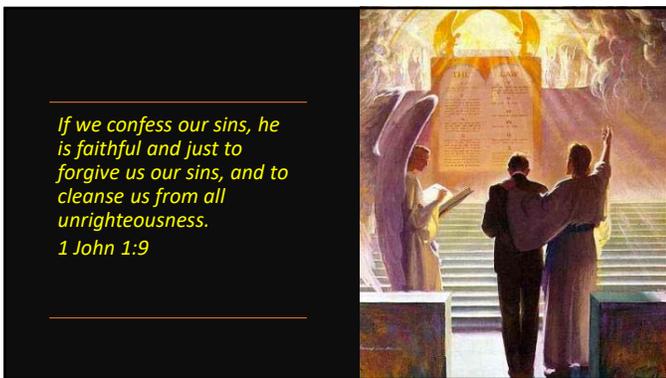


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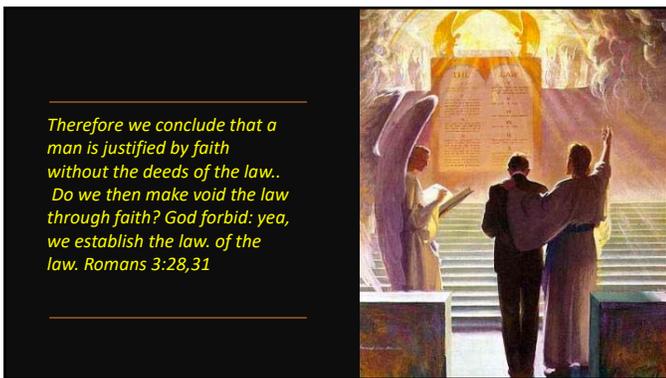
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The Gospel



Faith

The Law of God

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Exodus 20, Matthew 5:17-19
2. **The Spirit of the Law**
Matthew 5:27-28, Romans 7:6
3. **The Heart of the Law**
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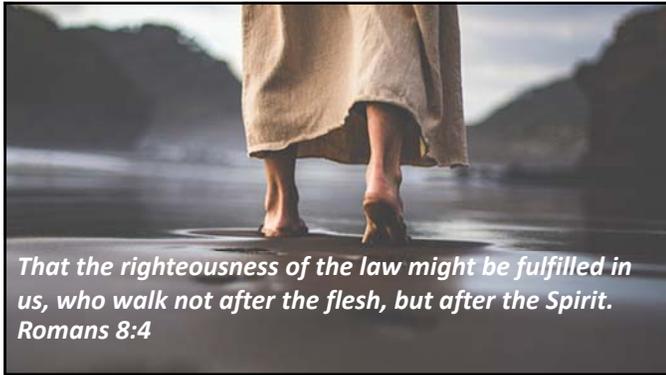


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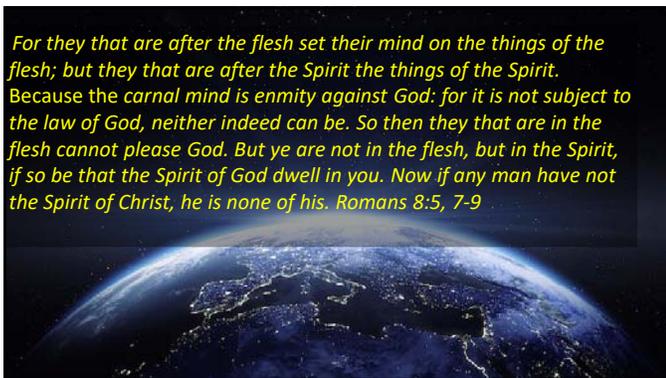
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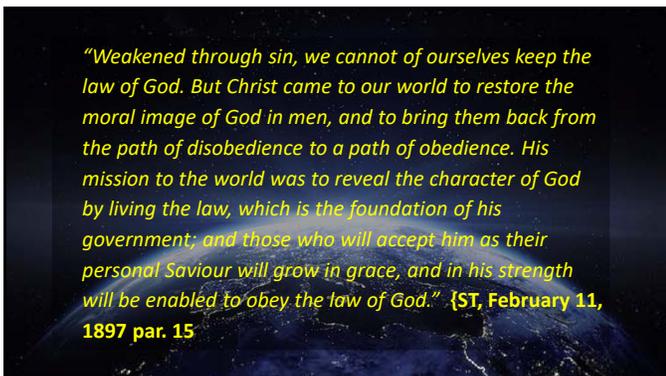
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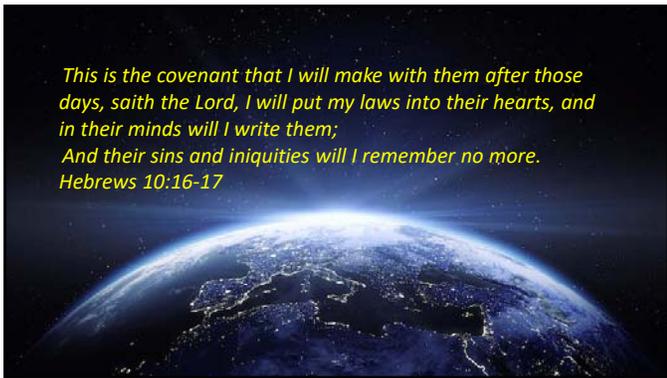
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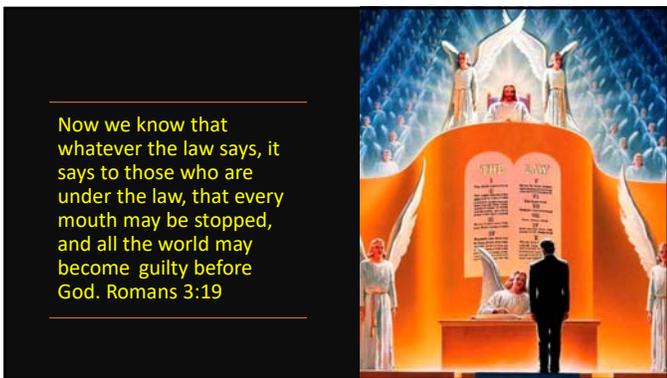


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This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Hebrews 10:16-17

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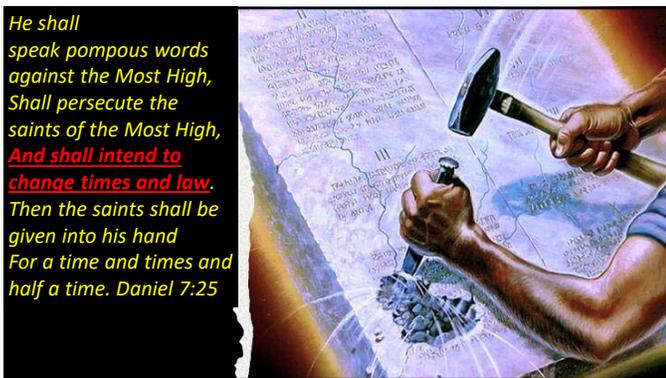
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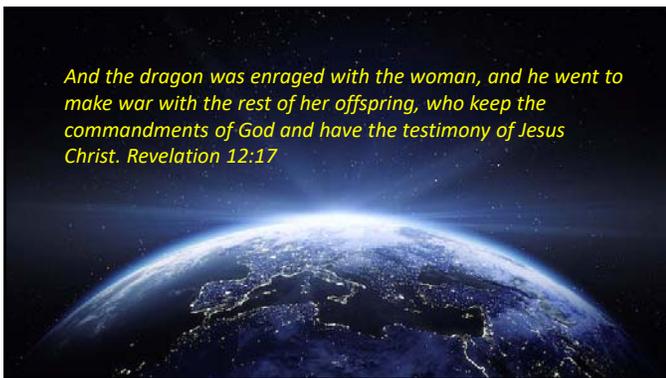
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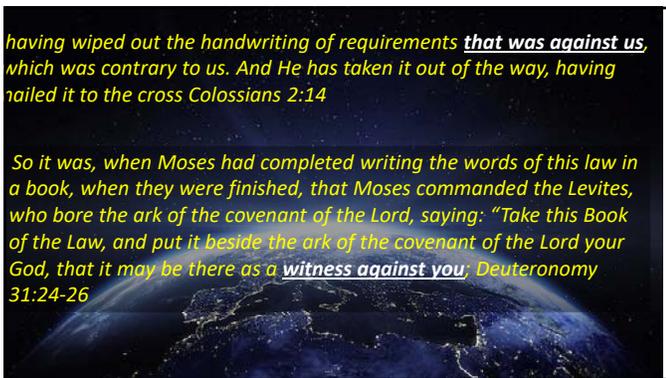


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having wiped out the handwriting of requirements **that was against us**, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross Colossians 2:14

34



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