

Head-Breaking Grace!

Part 2 – Slide & Scripture Notes

—portion by Cere Muscarella

Romans 3 We are all under sin; “There is none righteous, no, not one...” **by the deeds of the law no one will be justified in His sight** for by the law is the knowledge of sin. **But now the righteousness of God w/o the law is manifested**, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; **Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe:** for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Being justified freely by his grace thru the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God set to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood**, to declare **his righteousness for the remission of sins** that are past, thru the forbearance of God; **so we conclude that a man is justified by faith w/o the works of the law.**

Romans 5/6 **Being justified by faith, we have peace w/God thru our Lord Jesus Christ**, whom also gives us access **by faith into this grace** wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God... God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were sinners, Christ died for us... **being justified by His blood, we are saved** from wrath thru Him. Should we continue in sin so that grace might abound? God forbid. **Our old man is crucified w/Him** that the body of sin might be destroyed, that from now on we shouldn't serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. So don't let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts. **Being made free from sin** you became the **servants of righteousness**. **Being free from sin, you are servants to God, have your fruit unto holiness** and the end everlasting life!

Galatians 3 Are you so foolish? **Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?** He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. **No one is justified by the law** in the sight of God is evident, for **“the just shall live by faith.”** Christ has redeemed us from the **curse of the law**, having become a curse for us... that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, **that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

Galatians 5 **Stand fast in the liberty** that makes us free and don't become entangled again in the yoke of bondage! **Living by the law profits you nothing.** And I tell you again, **every man that lives by the law is a debtor to do the whole law!** Christ has become of no effect to you if **you choose to live by the law, you are fallen from grace!** You have been called to liberty but don't use your liberty as a freedom for your flesh, but by love serve one another. **For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’** Walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. **If you are led of the Spirit you are not under the law! Against the fruit of the Spirit, there is no law.** They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its lust and affections.

1Timothy 1.8-11 the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; Knowing this, that **the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly** and for sinners, for **unholy** and profane, for **murderers** of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For **whoremongers**, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, **and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;** According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

Jesus Think not that **I am come to destroy the law**, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, **but to fulfill**. 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**. For I say unto you, That except **your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees**, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus **Ye have heard that it was said** by them of old time, **Thou shall not kill**; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: **But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment:** and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire... **Ye have heard that it was said** by them of old time, **Thou shall not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looks on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.**

Talking Points. 1. No one can be saved by keeping the law! It is impossible! (*must get off the system!*) **2. By the law, sin, and helplessness** was revealed! **3. By God's love/favor** (grace) we were saved! **4. By Jesus death, the debt of sin was satisfied!** **5. Law continues to exist because it is eternal!** But it does not **condemn/judge us for salvation!** **6. Law continues to exist to convict us** when we sin, **renewing us again** to the grace of God!

Main Points. It's the "curse of the law" that believers have been "redeemed" from! Not, "redeemed from the law which was a curse..." Redeemed, price paid for, the curse of the law, which was the penalty of death (for even one failure!) We've been redeemed from death/hell/judgment... The law has been changed to Royal standards with Spirit power to live! The old law stands in place when we act unredeemed, to convict us! ("it is reported there is fornication among you as is not so much as named among the unsaved. I have judged this already... deliver!")

Main Points. We fulfill the minimum requirements of the law, naturally, not because we have to but because it's our new nature!

We put off the old man and put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. E4 (That's too legalistic!?)

Main Points. The difference between legalism and discipleship is values!

Legalists draw value from "perfection" and "comparison!"

I have done good so I am... (pride). I have done bad, so I must be... (torment).

Disciples have the value that they are living out God's nature of righteousness!

I am doing good, His nature is alive in me... (affirmation). I have done bad, nature's at war... (cultivation).

—portion by **Sonny Bowman**

Review of Part 1

Illustration

At the end of this age, God will pick up his children and go home. Some will have been good and some bad. Some will be broken. But those who belong to God will go home with God. Those that belong to another family (other than God) will not go home with God.

Two Families?

Some people are in the devil's family and some are in God's (John 8:39-47).

Be Sure You Are in God's Family!

Not automatic. You began in the wrong family.

Adoption into God's family through faith in Jesus (Galatians 3:26)

You go to heaven because it's your inheritance, not because you earned it (John 1:12-13).

What About Sin?

What is Sin? Breaking the Law of God! We are all guilty!

Price of sin is death – separation from God for eternity! Wages are earned!

We need to be made right with God – Righteousness – Free from Sin

Can't get it by good works! – Already guilty. (Murderer can't fix with good deeds.)

Comes only by faith in Jesus.

Simply forgiving our sins does not go far enough!

If your sins are all forgiven when you are saved, what happens when you commit new sins tomorrow, the next day, and the next...? Okay, so you ask God to forgive those sins when you commit them.

- But what if you forget one?
- What if you die before you ask forgiveness?
- How bad does a sin have to be to require you to ask forgiveness?
- What if you think a sin is not bad enough to ask forgiveness, but it really is?

Actually, sin is sin. God does not rank sin to the point that some require forgiveness and others do not. If you have broken any of God's laws you are guilty of all (James 2:10). It is impossible for even the tiniest sin to enter God's holy and pure presence.

Therefore, a Christian having to ask forgiveness for each sin to get it covered is an impossible solution.

What about a general, covers-all request for forgiveness. “Father, please forgive all my sins since the last time I asked.” How often should you pray this? Maybe every 30 minutes? Maybe also just before you get in a car to travel somewhere?

That might work if you could time it to where you ask for general forgiveness the instant before you die. But that’s not very practical. What if you die accidentally or without warning?

What a mess! But that is how many of us deal with our daily sins after becoming a Christian.

We need a better solution!

We need a solution that really solves the sin problem. That means, we need a solution that does not depend on our good or ability!

Let’s just cancel the Law! Can’t do that!

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

Matthew 5:18 — For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

How about diplomatic immunity? Like an ambassador in a foreign country. Under the laws of his home country, not the laws of the country he lives in. Sounds good, but the laws we have trouble with are the ones given by the King of our true home.

Maybe we could just die. A dead man doesn’t get a parking ticket. (coasts into no-parking zone.)

That’s actually how God did it!

Romans 7:1-6 — Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to *her* husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of *her* husband. So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. 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 6:6 — knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Colossians 3:3 — For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Ephesians 2:6 — and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

2 Corinthians 5:17 — Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Romans 8:1-4, 8-9 — *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. — So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

We have died to the Law!

Romans 7:6 — 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.

Colossians 2:13-14 — 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, 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.

Romans 6:14 — For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

What now?

Since I am not under the Law, I am free to do whatever I want! What would you do if you found out that you were no longer under the law? How would you live?

Mormon missionary: What if found out that Mormonism was not true, what would you do? Not this! I would be out partying and having a good time!

Your answers says a lot about the condition of your heart. You live right because of...

- Fear – loss or punishment
- Hope – gain or benefit
- Love – more interested in well-being of others

Just fire insurance? Once asked by a non-Christian. If found out that I could not go to heaven, I would continue to serve the Lord from love for Him and all He has done in my life so far. (She later accepted the Lord.)

Why should I keep the Law if I am not under it?

Romans 6:14-15 — For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

Sin has consequences in this life. Bad choices still cause bad results. They hurt you and other people. Many of God's Laws are designed to protect us from harm.

Romans 6:16-23 — 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? But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading to more* lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:12 — All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

Also, your actions bring glory or shame to the Father and His Kingdom.

Matthew 5:16 — Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Romans 2:23-24 — You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? For "*the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,*" as it is written.

We also hinder others from coming to the Lord because of our hypocrisy or ungodly actions. International lady who can't accept Christianity because she is convinced that the pastor who sold them her house covered up some serious problems.

Matthew 18:6 — “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Sin also hinders our ability to fulfill God's will in our lives. Can't reach my neighborhood or the people in Mexico if I am stuck in jail for robbing a store.

Our works will be judged in heaven for rewards.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 — According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

2 Corinthians 5:10 — For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Romans 14:19-21 — Therefore let us pursue the things *which make* for peace and the things by which one may edify another. Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed *are* pure, but *it is* evil for the man who eats with offense. It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor *do anything* by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak.

A new motivation

Man looks at the outward, God at the heart

1 Samuel 16:7 — But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the* LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

God desires a renewed heart, not conformity to a set of rules.

Romans 2:28-29 — For he is not a Jew who *is one* outwardly, nor *is* circumcision that which *is* outward in the flesh; but *he is* a Jew who *is one* inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise *is* not from men but from God.

A higher law

1 Corinthians 9:19-21 — For though I am free from all *men*, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those *who are* under the law, as under the law, that I might win those *who are* under the law; to those *who are* without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those *who are* without law;

Matthew 22:36-40 — “Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, ‘*You shall love the LORD* your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is *the* first and great commandment. And *the* second *is* like it: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Romans 13:9-10 — For the commandments, “*You shall not commit adultery,*” “*You shall not murder,*” “*You shall not steal,*” “*You shall not bear false witness,*” “*You shall not covet,*” and if *there is* any other commandment, are *all* summed up in this saying, namely, “*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*” Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love *is* the fulfillment of the law.

John 15:12-14 — This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

2 Corinthians 5:14 — For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died;

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 — Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have *the gift of prophecy*, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Free Indeed!

John 1:17 — For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

John 8:36 — Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Galatians 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.