

John 1:17-18
Aug 11, 1986
Rome Ga.
February 2, 2014

Snuffy Smith Cartoon:

Parson Tuttle asks Jughaid "Do you know what the first commandment is?" . Jughaid replies "That was when Eve told Adam to hurry up and eat that apple."

On grace: See **Rm. 11:6** " and if by grace it is no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace; otherwise work is no more work"

I. THE PURPOSE OF THE GIVING OF THE LAW = TO REVEAL SIN

A. THE LAW IS AN IMPUTER OF GUILT Rom. 3:19 Rm. 7:7-11

Rm. 3:19; "For we know that whatever things the law saith it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God."

ROMAN 7 :7- 11 TURN HERE !!!

Rom 7:7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "YOU SHALL NOT COVET."

Rom 7:8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all *manner of evil* desire. For apart from the law sin *was* dead.

Rom 7:9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.

Rom 7:10 And the commandment, which *was* to *bring* life, I found to *bring* death.

Rom 7:11 **For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.**

At a time when there was but one law when it was broken Man was Guilty! God said "don't eat!"
Man ate. Guilt ensued.

B. THE LAW IS AN IMPOTENT JUSTIFIER OF MANKIND ROM. 3:20

BUT **Rm. 3:20** says that BY THE DEEDS OF THE LAW SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED.

Rm. 3:20 "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.**"

Gal 2:16 " ... For by the works of the law shall no flesh be Justified."

The Law was a true REVELATION of God's will , and so far as it went it was Good. **BUT it did not enable man to be LIKE GOD.**

THE LAW Made great demands - BUT gave NOTHING

THE FRUIT OF THE LAW IS FUTILITY! IF YOU DOUBT IT TRY TO OBEY IT!

Years ago a man named James worked as a coachman for a fine Christian gentleman. His employer tried to tell him that he needed the Savior, but he believed he was living up to God's commandments and that nothing more was required of him. Jim, said his boss one day " if you can keep the law for even half an hour, I'll give you that brown horse you like." The self righteous man was delighted and accepted the offer. " all right " said his employer " get away by yourself for a while then come back and let me

know how you did." A short time later, James returned. "Sir," he said, " while I was gone, I was thinking, maybe you would let me have that old saddle too. The horse isn't much use without it." "Sorry Jim, now I can't give you the horse. Remember the law says "thou shalt not covet" you haven't been able to keep it after all. **DB Aug. 14, 1978.**

The law shows us a need that only grace can supply.

BUT, ON THE CONTRARY, BY COMPARISON ETC.

Summary: **1:17** John contrasts the OT period and the NT era. **The law** that was **given through Moses** was not a display of grace. It commanded men to obey and condemned them to death if they failed to do so. It told men what was right but did not give them the power to do it. It was given to show men that they were sinners, but it could not save them from their sins. **But grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.** He did not come to judge the world but to save those who were unworthy, who could not save themselves, and who were His enemies. That is **grace**—heaven's Best for earth's worst. bbc

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

" through Jesus Christ came GRACE and TRUTH."

In the **law** was a **shadow of good** things to come, in Christ we have the good things themselves.

" **Gal. 3:23-25** "... wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ,..."

" **Rm. 6:14** " ... Ye are not under the law - but under Grace."

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

Law was GIVEN BY Moses BUT Grace and Truth CAME BY Jesus Christ. "

The **law** was **GIVEN** for a special purpose,
Grace and Truth CAME in the natural course and as the issue of all that had gone before."

Gal 4:4 " But when the fullness of the time was come , **God sent forth his son, made of a woman, made under the law, to REDEEM them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."**

It is one thing if the president sends you a gift [or a greeting,]. It is quite another if he comes to your house to live with you!!!!

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST = TO REVEAL GOD [v. 18 c]

18:c the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

A. GOD IS THE IMPUTER of RIGHTEOUSNESS.

{ right-one-ness] And this is BY GRACE

The law was only able to impute GUILT

In contrast to the inexorable (relentless) demands of a law that brought no spiritual life,

Jesus Christ brought "GRACE" the unearned favor of God."

God, **UNDER the law DEMANDS RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM MAN**

God, **under grace, GIVES RIGHTEOUSNESS TO MAN.**

Expos. Paul in **Philippians. 3:9** said " [that] I may be found in Him, not having my own Righteousness, which is of the law, {and unable to justify} BUT that which is through the faith of Christ, the Righteousness which is of GOD by FAITH"

Joh 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

B. God is the OMNIPOTENT giver of Justification.

Rm. 3:20 said that the law was an IMPOTENT giver of salvation

Rm. 3:21-24

This is TRUTH as opposed to shadow Truth also was brought by Christ.

"ALETHEIA" here means "reality" as opposed to the symbolism of the Law.

Cf. **Jn. 4:23** " For the Hour cometh and now is when the **TRUE** worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in **TRUTH**: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.

" (used the illustration of the English word "**in**" which in the *American Heritage Dictionary* = Def. # 8 "**out of**" as in " said in anger.")

Jn. 4:24 " God is Spirit; and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and **TRUTH** It is no longer the word of Moses which keeps God's people in a right relationship to Him but rather it is faith in the Word of Christ;

Jn. 8:32 " And ye shall know the **TRUTH** and the **TRUTH** shall make you **free**"

Joh 8:32 *And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

See **31 Joh 8:31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

ARE YOU FREE TODAY?