

Basic Gospel History and Truth
By Josh Parsley

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. God created man on the sixth day and on the seventh God rested from his works. It is an amazing truth that man's first full day with God was a day of rest. In knowing this we plainly see that God's plan for man was to enter into His rest. A place where we would cease from our own works, and rest in His. A place where righteousness wasn't by works, but by a transaction with the Most High. This transaction is without money and without price yet demands total abandonment of all things. (Gen 1; Hebrews 4:10,11; Gal 2:16; Isa 55:1)

Not long after the beginning man corrupted all things. Rather than abiding in communion with God rebellion was chose. This rebellion yielded the entering in of Sin and Death. Now Sin and Death reign over all that are in the world, the only exception being those that are crucified to the world. Sin is a tyrant that has enslaved all humanity because whosoever committeth sin is the servant of Sin. And we all know because it's abundantly clear that all have sinned. (Gen 2; Rom 5:12, 21; John 8:34)

Before the Mosaic Covenant Sin was in the world, but without there being a law sins were not imputed. Because of transgressions, the Lord in is manifold wisdom, added the law until the promise should come. The Lord added the law to show men the exceeding sinfulness of sin. Many a man in their arrogance believed they were alive to God with nothing separating them, but when they reached a level of competence they were slain by the law, which bore witness with the conscience, and the corruption was revealed. The purpose of the law is to reveal sin and work wrath. In other words it reveals the guilt that is already there. (Rom 5:13; Gal 3:19; Rom 7:8-13; Rom 2:14,15; Rom 4:15)

Now that the promise has come we that have entered into that rest are not under the law. We now have a better covenant. The old has now passed and the new is revealed. The law has no hold on us, and likewise sin doesn't either. The only way to not be under the wrath of the law or the condemnation of sin is to die. The Bible says the wages of sin is death. We must be baptized into Christ's death and walk in newness of life or be baptized into the second death, which is the lake of fire. The choice of all men is to open their arms to wrath and condemnation or turn to the open arms of Jesus the Christ. In Christ the righteousness of the law is fulfilled. The law was perfect and good, but the fault lied with the weakness of man. But thanks be to our God the God-Man came not to destroy the law, but to fulfill it. He did not come to tear it down but to fulfill all of it. Now our righteousness doesn't come by keeping the law, but by faith in Christ. We must obey the Gospel of repentance that our sins may be remitted. (Heb 8:6; Rom 6; Rev 20:14; Rom 8:3,4; Matt 5:17; Rom 3:28)

If a man is free from the law does that mean that we can live in sin? Of course not! You cannot be dead to the law if you are not dead to sin. A Christian must walk in the Spirit that the deeds of the flesh will not be fulfilled. And when that happens the fruit of the Spirit will be revealed and against that there is no law to condemn. As a brother once said, "Christians do not keep the law, they fulfill the law." And we all know that the fulfilling of the law is love. (Gal 2:19; Gal 5:15, 22-25; Rom 13:10; Gal 5:14; Jam 2:8)

Does the law have any purpose? Yes. All those that are not righteousness are under the law. The

law is the very thing that leads us to Christ. When we see the law we see the wrath heaped upon us, and then cling to that nail scared hand. (1 Tim 1:8-11; Rom 3:19; Gal 3:24,25)