

THE LAW AND GRACE

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you! May the LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! May the Lord turn his face upon you and give you peace!"

GOD'S LAWS

There are so many laws that God has established for His creation, including natural laws and spiritual laws. All the laws of God given to man to Adam and Eve, to Noah, were later observed by Abraham even before they were enunciated and transcribed to Moses with the tablets of the law then transmitted in the Levitical priesthood:

Ge 22:11-12,18 ... and the angel of the LORD called him from heaven, and said, Abraham, **Abraham!** ... Now I know that **you fear God...** All the nations of the earth will be blessed in your seed, because **you have obeyed my voice.**

Ge 26:5 ... **Abraham obeyed my voice and kept what I had commanded him my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.**

Ps 119:63 "**I am a friend to all those who fear thee,** (obey the voice of God worship) **and keep thy commandments.** (they serve God They love)

As far as man and his relationship with Him, with his neighbor and with nature are concerned, God has mainly given some laws.

Read in the Old Testament:

1 - Moral law (To fear, to love God, and to love brotherhood and neighbor.)

Law of the Ten Commandments (**Still valid** Deut 5:6-21; Ex 20:1-17)

Law on Man and Woman - Commandments (Ex 20:1-17; Deut 5:6-21) (Ex 23:1-9)(Still valid)

Law on Jealousy of the Husband (Nu 5:12-31) (Still valid as infidelity on the part of one mate, not as a practice of humiliating a mate, Heb 13:4)

Law on judgment, mercy, and faith (Mt 23:23)(Joh 7:51) (Still valid, Joh 7:24; 1 Corinthians 5:12; Mt 9:13; Rom 1:17)

Law on Blood (Le 17:10-12) (Still Valid, Ac 15:19-20)

Law on clean and unclean animals (Le 11:1-47) (Jesus made all foods clean, Mk 7:18-19)

Law on the purification of the woman who gave birth (Le 12:1-8) (Jesus cleanses all uncleanness with his blood, Mt 9:20-21)

Law on leprosy and mold (Le 13; Le 14) (Jesus heals every disease, 1 Peter 2:24; and cleanses all things with his blood, Le 14:52-57)

Law concerning the impurity of man and woman (Le 15) (Jesus cleanses all impurity with his blood, Ac 10:15)

Law for Priests (Le 21) (The Levitical Priesthood is replaced by the Melchizedek Priesthood, of which Jesus is the High Priest, Heb 7:11-12)

Nazarite Law (Nu 6:1-21) (All born again are consecrated firstborns, Heb 12:23)

GOD'S LAW given to Moses

The law given to Moses is the Law of God or of the Lord (Jos 23:6; Jos 24:26; 2 Kings 10:31; 1 Chr 22:12; 2 Ch 12:1; 2 Ch 17:9; 2 Ch 31:3-4; 2 Ch 34:14; 2 Ch 25:36; Ed 7:10,12; Ne 8:18; Ps 19:7)

The law of the commandments or the law of Moses, is not of Moses but is given to Moses and is the law of God and does not change, it applies to everyone, but the law of God through judgment and also linked to the law

of sin and death, which Jesus defeated with His sacrifice and resurrection, because the natural man born in sin could not overcome sin and death, and consequently by sinning he violated the law of God, which made the curse fall on the sinner.

From 9:11 "Yes, all Israel has transgressed your law, and has gone astray so as not to obey your voice." Thus are heaped upon us the curses and curses which are written in the law of Moses, the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.

In a certain sense, like the Pharisees who claimed to obtain justice and life through the works of the law, without faith in the sacrifice of Christ and without the Holy Spirit.

Rom 7:10 "The commandment that should have given me life, it turned out that it condemned me to death.

Gal 5:18 "But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law." (i.e. under the condemnation of the law, under curse)

There are only two considerations to make:

1 - The law does not save, because salvation is by grace through the sacrifice of Christ.

Eph 2:8-9 "For it is by grace that you have been saved through faith; and this does not come from you; it is the gift of God. It is not by virtue of works that no one can boast of them.

Gal 2:16-21 We know that man is not justified by the works of the law but only by faith in Christ Jesus, and we also believed in Christ Jesus to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law; for by works of law no one will be justified. But if in seeking to be justified in Christ, we are also found to be sinners, does that mean that Christ is a servant of sin? Certainly not! In fact, if I rebuild what I have demolished, I prove myself to be a transgressor. As for me, through the law, I died to the law

so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ: it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me! The life I live now in the flesh, I live in faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not annul the grace of God; for if righteousness were obtained by the law, Christ would then have died in vain.

2 - The law must be put into practice after salvation with the help of the Holy Spirit, not to be justified before God, but to be justified before men, that is, by demonstrating that the works we do are produced by the Holy Spirit who guides us, and by showing them that we truly belong to Christ and are not mere believers mentally or intellectually like the demons who believe.

Rom 4:2-3 ... if Abraham had been justified by works, he would have boasted; but not before God; for what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God and this was counted to him as justice.

Jom 2:19-24,26 "You believe that there is one God, and you do well; even the demons believe it and tremble. Nonsense! Do you want to realize that faith without works has no value? Was not Abraham, our father, justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith worked together with his works, and that by works faith was made complete; thus was fulfilled the Scripture which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned upon him as righteousness"; and he was called the friend of God. Therefore you see that man is justified by works, and not by faith alone. For as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

Here the apostle James with respect to the apostle Paul speaks of faith working like that of the believer Abraham who was already walking with God, so his believing and walking was not a mental or intellectual fact, but a practical one that counted him as righteousness, waiting for Christ's redemption. As today, we show that we belong to Christ through the works

that the Holy Spirit leads us to do and the sin that the Holy Spirit prevents us from committing.

Eph 2:10 "For we are his handiwork, having been created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has prepared beforehand for us to do."

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of value; what counts is faith that works through love.

THE CURSE OF THE LAW

The law does not curse the believer who puts it into practice with the help of the Holy Spirit

Ne 8:8 "They read in the book of the law of God in a comprehensible way; they gave meaning to it, so that the people might understand what they read."

In 10:29 they joined themselves to their most remarkable brethren, and pledged themselves by execrations and oaths to walk in the law of God given through Moses the servant of God, to keep and do all the commandments of the Lord our God, and his ordinances and his laws.

Jesus Christ does not abolish the law but confirms it and fulfills it

Mt 5:17 (Jesus said) DO NOT THINK THAT I HAVE COME TO ABOLISH THE LAW or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

The Apostle Paul also confirms the law

Rom 7:22 "For I (Paul) am pleased with the law of God, according to the inner man.

Rom 7:16 "Now, if I do what I do not want, I admit that THE LAW IS GOOD.

Rom 3:31 "DO WE THEREFORE ANNUL THE LAW by faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, WE CONFIRM THE LAW.

Rom 7:12 "So THE LAW IS HOLY, and the commandment is holy, and righteous, and good."

Many preachers today do not teach correctly what law means in reference to the relationship between the believer and God; but it is explained only in reference to salvation, and therefore they consider the law of Moses something outdated, superfluous, insignificant not to be put into practice anymore, and most of the time this teaching contrasts with the teachings of Jesus.

Mt 22:37-40 Jesus said to him, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the great and first commandment. (first 4 commandments of the law of Moses) The second, similar to this one, is: "Love your neighbor as yourself". (last 6 commandments of the law of Moses) On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

Now the law of Moses as it is written condemned us, because man without the Holy Spirit cannot overcome sin. For this reason, the Jewish people were unable to put the law of Moses into practice. The law condemns those who sin because they fail to put God's commandments, God's Word, into practice. And today it is easier for many to justify sin than to ask God to strengthen them in faith and ask for the gifts of the Spirit and to be guided by the Holy Spirit to overcome temptations and sin. Others, on the other hand, say that if we put the law of Moses into practice we fall back into the curse of the law, this is true only for those who claim salvation by works and not by faith as the Galatians who had gone astray believed, for the apostle Paul rebuked the Galatians, because they no longer walked by faith and in the Holy Spirit, and also because they taught that salvation came through the observance of the law of Moses that neither they nor the Pharisees rebuked by Jesus were able to put into practice.

Joh 7:19 Did not Moses give you the law? Yet NONE OF YOU PUT THE LAW INTO PRACTICE!

Galatians 3:1-2 "O foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was represented crucified? This only I want to know from you: Have you received the Spirit by the works of the law or by the preaching of faith?

Gal 5:4 "You who want to be justified by the law are separated from Christ; you have fallen from grace.

That is why the apostle Paul reminded them that salvation was received by faith in Jesus Christ, not by works. But as far as walking with God, guided by the Spirit to do works, it has nothing to do with the curse of the law, otherwise it is contrary to the teachings of Jesus.

Ec 12:15 ... Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole thing for man.

1 Jn 2:4 "He who says, 'I have known him,' and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

1 Corinthians 7:19 "Circumcision counts for nothing, and uncircumcision counts for nothing; but what counts is the keeping of the commandments of God.

Jn 15:10 "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love."

We say that those who are blessed by God are blessed forever, and therefore when saved, born again, they cannot receive any curse, but then some say that if we put the law into practice we will be cursed.

Mt 7:12 (Jesus said) Whatever therefore you would have men do to you, do also to them; for this is the law and the prophets.

Gal 5:14 ... The whole law is fulfilled in this one word: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Rom 13:8,10 "Do not owe anyone anything but to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. Love does no harm to one's

neighbor; LOVE, THEREFORE, IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW.

So as some say, if we put the law into practice we throw the curse on ourselves, it would mean that we should not love our neighbor! So for them you are not cursed when you sin, but you are cursed when you put into practice the law of Moses, the law of God.

1 Joh 3:4 "Everyone who commits sin transgresses the law: **SIN IS THE VIOLATION OF THE LAW.**

Gal 3:10 ... all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, Cursed is anyone who does not hold fast to all things written in the book of the law in order to do them.

In these scriptures it is evident that the apostle Paul speaks only of salvation by faith and not by human works that resulted from the observance of the law. In fact, he explains this concept well with these Scriptures:

Rom 7:22 ... I see another law in my members, which fights against the law of my mind and makes me a prisoner of the law of sin that is in my members.

Gal 3:13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law (which also includes the law of sin and death in reference to salvation) by becoming a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree").

The curse strikes those who love to live in sin and turn away from the Lord and not those who keep God's commandments. A matter clarified by the prophet Jeremiah and Ezekiel who prophesied:

Grub 31:33 "But 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 INMOST BEING, AND I WILL WRITE IT ON THEIR HEARTS, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Eze 36:27 "I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT WITHIN YOU, AND I WILL CAUSE YOU TO WALK ACCORDING TO MY STATUTES, AND KEEP AND DO MY STATUTES."

It is confirmed by the apostle Paul:

Rom 8:1-4 "Therefore there is no longer any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, for the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has delivered me from the law of sin and death." For what was impossible for the law, because the flesh made it impotent, God has made; sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and, because of sin, condemned sin in the flesh, SO THAT THE COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW MIGHT BE FULFILLED IN US, WHO WALK NOT ACCORDING TO THE FLESH, BUT ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT.

The apostle Paul makes it clear that not only could man not be saved by his own works or merits, but only through the sacrifice of Christ, but that man would not even be able to put into practice the commandments of God, the Law of God, without the Holy Spirit dwelling in his heart. Only the Holy Spirit can fulfill His Law, and only the Holy Spirit, who is the source of Life, can defeat sin and death. Therefore, thanks to the sacrifice of Christ and the Holy Spirit who has given us, only those who are willing to let themselves be guided by the Holy Spirit will put the Word of God into practice, but those who still walk in their carnal nature of sin will not be able to do so, because they will continually sadden the Holy Spirit.

Rom 8:14 "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against these things there is no law.

Hos 4:6 My people perish for lack of knowledge.

Pr 28:9 "If anyone turns his ears away so as not to hear the law, his own prayer is an abomination."

Ps 37:30-31 "The mouth of the righteous one speaks wise words, and his tongue speaks righteously. God's law is in his heart; his steps will not waver.

Ps 40:8 "My God, I desire to do thy will, and thy law is within my heart."

Ps 119:1-3,9,11,18,44,96,141 Blessed are those who are upright in their ways, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Blessed are those who keep his teachings, who seek him with all their heart and do not do evil, but walk in his ways. How can the young man make his way pure? By watching it by your word. I have kept your word in my heart that I may not sin against you. Open my eyes, and I will behold the wonders of your law. I will always keep your law, for eternity. Oh, how I love your law! It's my meditation all day. Your justice is eternal righteousness, and your law is truth.

1 Jn 3:22 ... whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what is pleasing to him. This is his commandment: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another according to the commandment he has given us.

Gal 5:13-14 "For, brethren, you have been called to freedom; only do not make liberty an occasion to live according to the flesh, but through love serve one another; for the whole law is fulfilled in this one word, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

There is also another Scripture that could be easily misunderstood:

Cl 2:13 ... God has made us alive with him, forgiving us all our sins; he blotted out the document hostile to us, whose commandments condemned us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to the cross...

Here too the reference is salvation not observance after salvation, precisely because as the verse says, the commandment condemned us because not being able to put it into practice, we remained in our sins. In fact, it is written:

Rom 6:6-10 For we know that our old man was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, and we no longer serve sin, for he who died is free from sin. Now, if we have died with Christ, we also believe that we shall live with him, knowing that Christ, raised from the

dead, dies no more; Death no longer has power over him. For his dying was a dying to sin, once for all; but his living is a living to God.

The same question had already arisen among the first Jewish believers and unfortunately for many it is still so today. For the Pharisees, the salvation of the Gentiles had to pass through circumcision and the observance of the law and although circumcision came before (Ge 17:9-11) the law given to Moses, the apostles and elders made it clear that salvation for all is by grace through faith, making it clear that circumcision is no longer in the flesh but in the heart. (Rom 2:28-29) and the law to be kept was only the moral law after receiving salvation.

Acts 15:1,5-14,19-20 Some came from Judea and taught their brethren, saying, "Unless you are circumcised according to the rite of Moses, you cannot be saved." But some of the sect of the Pharisees, who had become believers, stood up, saying, "They must be circumcised, and they must be commanded to keep the law of Moses." Then the apostles and elders met to discuss the matter. And when a lively discussion ensued, Peter stood up and said, "Brethren, you know that from the beginning God chose me from among you, that from my mouth the strangers might hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God, who knows hearts, bore witness in their behalf, giving the Holy Ghost to them as to us; and he made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. So why do you tempt God by putting a yoke on the necks of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we are saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus in the same way as they are." The whole assembly was silent and listened to Barnabas and Paul, who told what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. When they had finished speaking, James spoke and said, "Brethren, listen to me, Simon has related how God at first wished to choose a people consecrated to his name from among the foreigners. Therefore I believe that foreigners who are converted to God should not be disturbed; but that they should be written to abstain from defiled things in sacrifices to idols, from

fornication, from choking animals, and from blood.

Acts 13:38-39 "Let it be known to you, brethren, that through him the forgiveness of sins is preached to you; and through him (Jesus Christ) everyone who believes is justified out of all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.

Gal 2:21 "I (Paul) do not annul the grace of God; for if righteousness were obtained by law, then Christ would have died in vain.

Rom 3:20 "For by the works of the law no one will be justified before him; for the law only gives the knowledge of sin."

Gal 6:15 For both circumcision and uncircumcision are nothing; what matters is that you are a new creature.

2 - Sacrificial law (No longer valid replaced by the sacrifice of Christ)

The law of burnt offerings, meat offerings, offerings, various sacrifices (Le 1:1-17; Le 6:9; Le 6:14; Le 2:1-16; Le 3:1-17; Le 6:25; Le 7:1; Le 7:11; 7:37)

(The Levitical priesthood is replaced by the Melchizedek priesthood, of which Jesus is the High Priest and his sacrifice was made once and for all, Heb 7:26-28)

3 - Ceremonial Law (New Law under the Melchizedek Priesthood)

Law of the Sabbath and of the solemn feasts established by God for all (Le 23) (Still valid are prophetic and holy days established by God, to be practiced as days of worship in the spirit and are part of the Melchizedek Spiritual Priesthood) (See the meditation on the New Testament Feasts in the site link at the footer)

End-time prophecy

From 7:25 He (the fourth kingdom or beast) will speak against the Most High, and will afflict the saints of the Most High, and will purpose to change the feast days and the law; the saints will be delivered into His hand for a time, times, and half a time. (what feast days if not the Sabbath, the Holidays of God and the moral law?)

Law on the sounding of the two silver trumpets (Nu 10:1-10) (Leviticus priesthood substituted)

Law concerning tassels (Nu 15:37-41) (Leviticus priesthood substituted)

The Levitical Priesthood of Aaron (Ex 28:1) (Levitical Priesthood Substituted)

Law of tithes (Nu 18:23-24) (In the new Melchizedek Priesthood, replaced by voluntary offerings, 2 Corinthians 8:1-15)

Law of circumcision in the flesh (Ge 17:10-14; Lv 12:1-3) (replaced by circumcision of the heart by faith in Christ's sacrifice Rom 2:28-29)

Read in the New Testament:

1 - The law of faith (for the salvation of everyone who believes)

Rom 3:21-30 "But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been manifested, to which the law and the prophets bear witness: that is, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ, for all who believe there is no distinction: all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, but are justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God has ordained it as a propitiatory sacrifice by faith in his blood, to prove his righteousness, having shown tolerance for sins committed in the past, in the time of his divine patience; and to prove his righteousness in the present time that he may be righteous and justify him who has faith in Jesus. So where is the boast? It is excluded. By what law?

Works? No, but **by the law of faith**; for we hold that man is justified by faith without the works of the law. Is God only the God of the Jews? Is he not also the God of other peoples? Of course, He is also the God of other peoples, for there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith, and the uncircumcised likewise by faith.

2 - Law of sin (which leads to spiritual death or second death)

The law of sin is in the hearts of all men.

Ps 51:5 Behold, I was born in iniquity, **and my mother conceived me in sin.**

Rom 7:1-6 "Or do you not know, **brethren** (for I speak to people who have knowledge of the law), that the law has power over man as long as he lives? **For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law that binds her to her husband.** Therefore, if she becomes another man's wife while her husband is alive, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law; so she is not adulterous if she becomes another man's wife. **So, my brethren, you also were put to death as far as the law is concerned by the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, that is, to him who rose from the dead, that we might bear fruit to God. For while we were in the flesh, sinful passions, awakened by the law, were at work in our members for the purpose of bearing fruit unto death; but now we have been loosed from the bonds of the law, having died to that which held us in subjection, to serve in the new regime of the Spirit and not in the old one of the letter.**

Rom 7:14-25 For we know that **the law is spiritual; but I am carnal, sold into slavery to sin.** For what I do I do not understand, for I do not do what I will, but I do what I hate. Now, **if I do what I do not want, I admit that the law is good;** then it is no longer I who do it, but **it is sin that dwells in me.** For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, there is no good; for in me there is the will, but the way of doing good, no. In fact, the good I want, I

do not do; but the evil I don't want, that I do. Now, if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin that dwells in me. I am therefore under this law: when I want to do good, evil is in me. For I am pleased with the law of God, according to the inner man, but I see another law in my members, which fights against the law of my mind and makes me a prisoner of the law of sin that is in my members. Unhappy me! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then, I serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh the law of sin.

The apostle Paul here declares that even after salvation, although we have been redeemed by the law of sin and death, still having through free will, the will to sin, we have two possibilities: that of walking by the Spirit that leads to eternal life and that of walking by the flesh that brings eternal death.

Gal 5:16-25 "I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will by no means fulfill the desires of the flesh." For the flesh has desires contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit has desires contrary to the flesh; they are opposite things; so that you can't do what you would like. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are: fornication, uncleanness, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, discord, jealousy, anger, strife, divisions, sects, envy, drunken bouts, orgies, and other such things; Concerning which, as I have already told you, I warn you, that he who does such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. The fruit of the Spirit, on the other hand, is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control; against these things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, we also walk guided by the Spirit.

Rom 6:16 "Do you not know that if you offer yourselves to someone as slaves to obey him, you are slaves of him whom you obey: either of sin that leads to death, or of obedience that leads to righteousness?

Rom 8:12-14 "So then, brethren, we are not indebted to the flesh to live according to the flesh; for if ye live according to the flesh ye shall die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the works of the body, ye shall live; for all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

3 - Law of the Spirit of Life (The Spirit is the source of our life)

Rom 8:1-4 "Therefore there is no longer any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, for the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has delivered me from the law of sin and death." For what was impossible for the law, because the flesh made it impotent, God has made; sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and, because of sin, condemned sin in the flesh, so that the commandment of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

4 - Law of freedom (freedom to serve Christ and practice His Word)

Jom 1:25-27 "But he who looks intently into the perfect law, that is, into the law of liberty, and perseveres in it, will not be forgetful hearers, but one who does it; he will be happy in his doing.

If one thinks he is religious, but then does not bridle his tongue and deceives himself, his religion is in vain. Pure and unblemished religion before God and the Father is this: to succor orphans and widows in their afflictions, and to keep oneself clean from the world.

Jom 2:8 "Certainly, if you fulfill the royal law, as the Scripture says, 'Love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing well.

Jom 4:11 "Do not speak ill of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of his brother, or he who judges his brother, speaks ill of the law and judges the law. Now, if you judge the law, you are not one who does it, but a judge.

1 Jn 3:10-11 "In this the children of God are distinguished from the

children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, as well as he who does not love his brother. For this is the message you have heard from the beginning: that we love one another.

1 Jn 3:23-24 This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another according to the commandment he has given us. He who keeps his commandments abides in God and God in him. By this we know that he abides in us: by the Spirit who has given us.

THE GRACE

Jn 1:17 ... the law was given through Moses; grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

Rom 3:23-24 All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, but are justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Eph 2:8 "For it is by grace that you have been saved through faith; and this is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.

2 Tim 1:9-10 "He (God) saved us and made a holy calling to us, not because of our works, but according to his purpose and the grace that was given to us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but which has now been manifested by the appearance of our Savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought forth life and immortality through the gospel.

Rom 6:1-2,15,19,22-23 "What shall we say then? Shall we remain in sin so that grace may abound? Certainly not! We who have died to sin, how would we still live in it? What will we do then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? Certainly not!... Just as you have already lent your members to the service of uncleanness and iniquity to commit iniquity, so now you lend your members to the service of righteousness for sanctification. But now, freed from sin and made servants of God, you have

your sanctification as your fruit and eternal life as your end.

2 Thess 2:16-17 "Now let our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us by His grace eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts, and confirm you in every good work and in every good word.

Phil 1:29-30 "For it has been granted you the grace in relation to Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for Him, bearing the same struggle that you have seen me undergo, and in which you now hear that I am."

2:11-14 "For the grace of God, saving for all men, has been manifested, and teaches us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, to live in this world moderately, justly, and holy, awaiting the blessed hope and the appearance of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Christ Jesus. He gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify himself a people who belong to him, zealous for good works.

2 Pt 3:17 "Beloved, therefore, knowing these things, be on your guard lest you be led away by the error of the wicked, and thus fall from your steadfastness; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, now and forever. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:13 "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Amen.