



THE Sermon ON THE Mount

Christian Life Center, A Foursquare Church | 951-689-6785

THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW

1. The Law was God's will in words.

- Exodus 20:1-17 — The 10 Commandments
- Psalm 19:1-14 *The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.*

2. Under the Old Covenant, believers manifested their faith in God by observing the Law for their own good .Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 10:12-13; 30:1-16

3. The law prepared the way for the coming of Christ.

- Galatians 3:24-25 *So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.*

4. Christ did not do away with the Law but fulfilled it; respected and loved it, and taught its deeper meaning.

- Matthew 5:17-48 *...Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them....*

5. The law's weakness was that it could not bring victory over sin.

- Romans 8:3-4 *For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.*

6. The Law was made for the lawless.

- 1 Timothy 1:8-11 *We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers--and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.*

7. Jesus' summary of the law: It demands pure love for God and pure love for our others.

- Matthew 22:35-40 *One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"*

Jesus replied: " ` Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ` Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

GRACE VS LEGALISM

1. The power of legalistic error.

- Galatians 2:11-13 *When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.*

2. Grace gives us power to say “no” to sin.

- Titus 2:11-12 *For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,...*

3. Legalism reinforces sin.

- Romans 5:20-21 *The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
- Romans 3:19 *Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.*

4. Grace is the opposite of legalism.

- Colossians 2:14 *You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.*

5. Legalism “sets aside” God’s grace.

- Galatians 2:21 *I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!*

6. We are saved and justified through grace.

- Romans 3:24 *There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.*
(Galatians 2:16)