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~ Lesson #14 ~

The Law And The Gospel

J. Edgar Hoover recently stated that we are losing the battle against crime. Juvenile crime is skyrocketing. Law-enforcement officers are gravely concerned with the disregard shown by the American people for the laws of the land.

What is causing the people of our time to be so lawless? Look magazine, in an article that surveyed the moral depravity of society today, analyzed the situation correctly when it stated that there is no longer a moral standard to guide the modern generation.

Even some religious leaders advocate a very different way of life from that which is taught in the Word of God. From many pulpits the people have been told, "The law of God has been abolished, so why worry about that old yoke of bondage?" Others state that it is impossible to keep God's law, so why try?

Persons who advocate the nullification of the law of God may be sincere, but they are mistaken. When we remove the standard of right and wrong, it is not long until society will abandon all moral principles. We are reaping the fruitage today of the teaching and preaching that some churches gave society yesterday. The psalmist said, "It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void Thy law." <u>Psalm 119:126</u>.

Let us take a clear look at the Bible teaching concerning law and grace.

THE BIBLE SAYS

1. How does the Bible describe the law? <u>Psalm 19:7</u>; <u>Romans 7:12</u>

The Bible Says:

2. What is one of the main purposes of the law? <u>Romans 3:19, 20</u>

The Bible Says:

3. What helped Paul to recognize sin in his life? <u>Romans 7:7</u>

The Bible Says:

4. To what law recorded in the Old Testament was Paul referring? Exodus 20:17

The Bible Says: _____

Note: This is one of the Ten Commandments, given in Exodus 20:3-17.

5. What does the Bible say sin is? <u>I John 3:4</u>

The Bible Says:

6. Can sin exist when there is no law? <u>Romans 4:15</u>

The Bible Says:

Note: God gave His perfect law to point out sin. In the Ten Commandments we have the perfect rule of right living. To the sinner it brings a conviction of sin. To the Christian it serves as a standard of right living. It does not save from sin, —it can only bring a conviction of sin so that the sinner might feel his need of Christ and come to Him for salvation.

7. Because the transgression of God's law has made us sinners, what was it necessary for Christ to do? <u>Romans 5:8</u>

The Bible Says: _____

8. By what then are we saved from our sins? <u>Ephesians 2:8, 9</u>

The Bible Says:

Note: Grace is defined as "unmerited favor." It is something that we cannot earn, nor do we deserve it. It is the free gift of God.

9. How do We receive this gift of grace? <u>Romans 6:23</u>

The Bible Says: _____

Note: Jesus exchanged places with us. On the cross He received the punishment that we deserve. Thus the debt of our sins was paid. We receive the reward His perfect life of obedience deserves.

10. How does Paul indicate that one saved by grace will not continue to live in sin? <u>Romans 6:1, 2, 14, 15</u>

The Bible Says: _____

11. Does our acceptance of Christ through faith abolish the law? <u>Romans 3:31</u>

The Bible Says:

12. What nature do we still possess if we are opposed to God's law? <u>Romans 8:7</u>

The Bible Says: _____

13. How will the born-again person show his love for God? I John 5:1-3

The Bible Says:

14. What does the Bible say about the person who professes to know Christ and yet refuses to obey Him? <u>I John 2:1-4</u>

The Bible Says: _____

15. What will be the attitude of the person who has been saved by God's matchless grace? <u>Psalm 40:8</u>

The Bible Says: _____

One night in an evangelistic meeting a young man, who had been the town drunkard, responded to the appeal made and came forward, giving his life to Christ. When asked how he would solve the problems that faced him, he replied that he did not know, but he was determined to give himself to God. His question was not, "How much must I give up to become a Christian?" It was, "How much can I do for Christ who did so much for me?" You see, Christ had taken full possession of that man's heart because a full surrender had been made. He had responded to the challenge of the Master when He said, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." <u>Luke 9:23</u>.

If you have not as yet accepted Christ as your Saviour, we invite you to do it now. Compare your life with the law of God and you will discover that you are a sinner. Learn from the Bible that the wages of sin is death. Realize that your only hope for cleansing and salvation is found in Christ and His death for your sins. Then come and kneel by faith at the cross and let Him take away your sins. Arise from your knees and go forth to live for Him. This is the only way you can find peace and happiness for your soul.

I want God to help me to become an obedient child of His.

Next Lesson: Prayers That Are Answered

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