

# Perfect Law of Liberty

Christian Belief 103-10

The laws of God are laws of liberty to benefit us, not to condemn us.

**But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the works, this one will be blessed in what he does. ... So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty (James 1:25; 2:12 NKJV).**

- The 'perfect law of liberty' benefits you to be 'blessed in what you do'.
- 'A doer of the works' is one who 'so speaks and so does as one who will be judged by the law of liberty'. Love, not judgment, should drive you (see Galatians 5:14).

## 1. *Authority of God's perfect law of liberty*

Divine authorship commands your faith for the Bible, the 'perfect law of liberty'.

**All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV).**

- The Bible (Greek: *'biblios'*; means 'book') is also called the Scripture which means 'writings'. 'All Scripture', or the entire Bible, is written by the inspiration (Greek: *Theopneustos*, means 'God-breathed') of the Spirit of God who breathed upon men the very thoughts and words He wanted written (see also Exodus 17:14; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21). The phrase 'God said' is found over 3,800 times in its pages.
- About 40 men from various walks of life wrote 66 books (39 in Old Testament and 27 in New Testament) in three languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek) over a period of 1,600 years. They were kings, statesmen, prophets, priests, scribes, farmer, fishermen, scholar, physician, and tax officer who lived in different times, from Egypt to Babylon to Rome. Their writings include history, law, poetry, prophecy, biography, songs, letters, parables, and proverbs. With such great diversities, they produced an amazingly unified book focusing on the theme of God's salvation for sinners. The first coming of the Savior was foretold by 30 persons, over a period of 4,000 years before Jesus was born! About 330 prophecies in the Old Testament have been fulfilled in one Person within a few years, and most of them in one day.
- The unity and progression of thoughts with the absence of contradiction indicates that the Bible had ultimately one author—God. The divine authorship of the Bible makes it infallible and the supreme authority for all Christians concerning belief, morals, conscience, life, church, spirits, and heavens.

## 2. *Satan steals the Law to kill and destroy*

Satan abuses the Law to bring condemnation and death (see John 10:10a).

**The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ... And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die" (Genesis 2:9a, 16-17 NKJV).**

- In Eden, Satan wanted Adam to disobey God to eat of the 'tree of the knowledge of good and evil' (which speaks of treating the law as a legal code) rather than to eat of the 'tree of life' (which speaks of receiving God's grace for an eternal life) to bring into human life condemnation and death. Since then, the entire human race came under a system of rewarding good and punishing evil. Adam felt condemned and hid from God's presence (see Genesis 3:8). Guilt causes people to run from God. Ironically, our sinful nature inclines to meet God's righteous requirements by our efforts and to judge others without grace.

**Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD (Exodus 19:8 NKJV).**

- At Sinai, Israel was saying that they were able to do all that God requires. Because of having a legalistic slave-mentality, they could not appreciate God's pure grace in making them a spiritual nation to carry God's presence (see Exodus 19:5-6, 8). They had presumptuously wanted a covenant of proving their righteousness. So God had to give them the 'you shall not' kind of laws, which was later called the Law.

**For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all (James 2:10 NKJV).**

- What they did not know was that by following this legalistic system of obtaining righteousness by keeping the Law perfectly, if they fail in one commandment they are guilty of all (see also Matthew 5:21-22, 28).
- From that point of time onwards, every time they murmured and complained, many of them would die (see Numbers 11:1, 33; 14:29-30; 16:31-35, 49; 21:7-8; 25:9). Blessings and provisions depended on their perfect obedience. Every failure and sin would be punished, even by death. The Law became 'the ministry of death' and 'the ministry of condemnation' (see 2 Corinthians 3:6b-9). But the covenant of grace which God gave to Abraham blesses the undeserved and forgives their failures (see Genesis 12:1-3; 22:11-18).
- Satan, in Hebrew means an 'adversary' or an 'accuser' (see Revelation 12:10) is a prosecutor, using the Law as a 'ministry of condemnation and death' against your failures to inflict guilt to destroy your life. He knows condemnation of conscience causes sicknesses more than fear and stress can.

### **3. *Christ fulfilled the Law to set us free***

Christ has fulfilled the Law and re-offered us the pure grace of God.

**Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good (Romans 7:12 NKJV).**

- The Law is holy, just, and good but it cannot make us holy. It helps us to know our sins (see Romans 3:20, Galatians 3:24).
- The Law cannot save us from condemnation. God placed all our sins on Christ to destroy their control over us (see Romans 8:3). Christ did not come to abolish the Law, but to fulfill them by being punished on the cross for our failures in keeping the Law perfectly (see Matthew 5:17; Colossians 2:13-14; Hebrews 10:12-14). By faith, believing on His death for our sins, we are justified (see Romans 5:9, 17).

God will never condemn you because Christ was condemned on your behalf.

**There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1a NKJV).**

- You are 'now' set free from all condemnations and have a total forgiveness.
- In Old Testament time, when a person brings his sin offering to a priest, the priest does not examine him but the sin offering (see Leviticus 22:18-25). Today, God does not examine you; He examines the Sin Offering—the Lamb of God, Christ.

**And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world (1 John 2:2 NKJV).**

Christ is the 'propitiation' (Greek translation of the 'mercy seat') for our sins. The mercy seat is the lid of the Ark of the Covenant, a rectangular wooden box covered with gold both inside and outside, with two golden angelic statues on top (see Exodus 25:22). Three items were kept inside the Ark: the stone slabs with the Ten Commandments that speak of our **failure** to keep God's law perfectly (see Exodus 32:19); Aaron's rod that points to our rebellion against God's appointed leadership (see Numbers 17:1-10); and a golden pot of manna that speaks of man's rebellion against God's provision (see Psalm 78:24-25; Numbers 21:5). God has put these rebellions into the Ark and covered them with the mercy seat where the high priest of Israel would place the blood of the animal sacrifice. Christ is the Lamb of God and His blood has covered our sins once and for all (see John 1:36; Hebrews 10:11-14). He is also the Mercy Seat for our sins.

- The mercy seat was not to be lifted at any time. 50,070 men were destroyed when they lifted the mercy seat from the ark (see 1 Samuel 6:19). Uncovering your sins or the sins of others incurs judgment (see Matthew 7:1-5). We 'speak and do as people who will be judged by the law of liberty' and our 'judgment is with mercy' (see James 2:12-13).
- When David took the Ark back from the enemy to Jerusalem, he put it in a tent instead of into the tabernacle which was at Gibeon about 10 km away, where priests were still offering sacrifices though without having the ark there (see 2 Chronicles 1:4, 6). David worshipped God with all his heart in dance and music before the Ark, unlike those who feared God's judgment (see 2 Samuel 6:14). God is now raising 'the tabernacle of David' in the End-time, a consciousness of His grace and a willingness to forgive one another (see Amos 9:11).
- God has made a new covenant with us, in which 'our sins and lawless deeds He will remember no more' (see Hebrews 10:16-17). Likewise, forgive others.