



## Grace, the Sabbath day and doing the Law.

The opposite of GRACE is observing the LAW or in our day (being Good and observing certain rituals).

Many People and church's want you to "OBEY the LAW" as your condition of salvation. **This is a trick of Satan.** A friend of mine once said that when you are NOT a Christian you are under a **death sentence**. The minute you become a Christian, Satan's goal for you is now to give you **life in prison**. Ironically, that is exactly what adhering to the law for our salvation does – puts us in prison. The apostle Paul (who was the religious of the religious BEFORE becoming a Christian) says it this way:

*Galatians 3:23-25*

*Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. [24] So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. [25] Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.*

Sometimes The LAW is disguised and sometimes it is blatant. Unfortunately, regardless of how it is disguised it is considered "another Gospel" by Paul as he writes in the New Testament.

*Galatians 1:8-9*

*But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! [9] As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!*

Galatians is a book Paul wrote because the Galatians were teaching that you must accept Christ and then start living like a Jew. Especially since the Christians were meeting now on Sunday (this was to commemorate Jesus resurrection and also because under the New Covenant EVERY DAY IS A SABBATH!)

### **How do we know they were meeting on Sunday?**

Matthew 28:1

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

Specific: the first day of the week is the day AFTER the Sabbath or Sunday.

Paul is preaching...

Acts 20:7

On the **first day of the week** we came together to break bread. **Paul spoke to the people** and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight.

**At this "Sabbath" service they are to take up the offering...**

1 Cor. 16:2

On the **first day of every week**, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

Some have said that the Catholic Church made it Sunday. That is not true. It was already Sunday for 300 years before the Catholic Church was even around. They just made it official.

The Catholic Church (or any other church) is made up of believers and Non-believers. Belonging to a specific denomination does not make you a Christian, it makes you a member of a recognized organization. Being a believer is all about a personal relationship to Jesus Christ not whether you belong to some church.

**The word Sabbath does not mean a day to worship – it means an intermission and a rest!** As Christians we are to REST every day in our salvation because we are in the intermission between the first coming of Jesus and his Second Coming. Every day is a Sabbath after the New Covenant.

Let's look at the word Sabbath in the Old Testament:

*Exodus 16:23*

*He said to them, "This is what the Lord commanded: 'Tomorrow is to be a **day of rest**, a holy **Sabbath** to the Lord. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.'* "

Here is what the word means in the original Hebrew

**shabbath**, Hebrew 7676, Strong's

**shabbath**, *shab-bawth'*; intensive from Hebrew 7673 (shabath); **intermission**, i.e. (specific) the Sabbath :- (+ every) sabbath.

Sabbath means an intermission. In the verse above it is a day that is the intermission between two weeks and is dedicated to the Lord.

There are hundreds of uses of the word Sabbath in the Bible:

*Leviticus 23:32*

*It shall be unto you a **sabbath of rest**, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath.*

So it also means rest (above and below).

*Leviticus 23:3*

*" There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a **Sabbath of rest**, a day of sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a Sabbath to the Lord.*

Below we have a whole year that is a sabbath. An intermission between crops and a time to allow the land to rest and replenish itself.

*Leviticus 25:4*

*But in the **seventh year** the land is to have a **sabbath of rest**, a sabbath to the Lord. Do not sow your fields or prune your vineyards.*

And here we have multiple years that are Sabbaths.

*Leviticus 26:34*

*Then the land will enjoy its **sabbath years** all the time that it lies desolate and you are in the country of your enemies; then the land will rest and enjoy its sabbaths.*

So we see that if we are to observe the Sabbath we will have to do it not just on Saturday, but every 7<sup>th</sup> year for a whole year , and multiples of years.

Indeed, if we choose to observe the Sabbath under the Old Testament Law - the New Testament says we must observe EVERY SINGLE PORTION OF IT.

*James 2:10*

*For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.*

So in order to keep the **WHOLE LAW** of the Sabbath we must do the following among many:

**You cannot go outside:**

*Exodus 16:29*

*Bear in mind that the Lord has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. Everyone is to stay where he is on the seventh day; **no one is to go out.***

**You must be killed if you work:**

*Exodus 31:14-15*

*" Observe the Sabbath, because it is holy to you. Anyone who desecrates it must be put to death; whoever does any work on that day must be cut off from his people. [15] For six days, work is to be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. **Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day must be put to death.***

**You cannot light a fire – not even a cigarette:**

*Exodus 35:3*

*Do not light a fire in any of your dwellings on the Sabbath day. "*

**You must kill two lambs**

*Numbers 28:9*

*" On the Sabbath day, make an offering of two lambs a year old without defect, together with its drink offering and a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil.*

**ETC, ETC , ETC , ETC .....**

**Look at this key verse:**

*Exodus 31:16*

*The **Israelites** are to observe the Sabbath, celebrating it for the generations to come as a **lasting covenant.***

The Israelites are to observe the Sabbath not gentiles! How long are the Israelites to observe the Sabbath and the rest of the Law (the 10 commandments plus 360 other laws) ?

*Gal 3:19 What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, **till the SEED should come** to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.*

Man was appointed to be under the law **UNTIL the "seed" should come.** The Messiah is the seed or the promised one out of the original group of Jews from Abraham - but after the Messiah came...we must live by faith (see Gal 3: 23-25).

So we see that using the Sabbath as a condition of Salvation is TOTALLY CONTRARY to the Bible. Why? It's in the Bible isn't it?

**Yes! But God has made two covenants: One to the Jews and one to all who will believe in his son.**

Prior to the Messiah (Jesus, God's son) you had only one option – become a Jew and follow the Law. The Law was to show you how absolutely sinful you really were (because God knew we couldn't keep the Law) and so only because God called you his was there any hope for you.

Once the Messiah came and died (paid the penalty for your sin), we now have only one way to heaven. Believe on his Son. It is Jesus' action (dying on the cross) that saves us not ours!

What ways are we told by these well meaning people in church's that we must obey?

Don't Drink, Don't smoke, don't eat meat on Friday, Go to church on Saturday not Sunday, Don't go to movies, on and on.....

Q. What was the purpose of the law?

ROM 3:20 Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

ROM 4:15 because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

ROM 5:13 for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. \*

\* This answers the question "what about the people in New Guinea who have never heard of Jesus?" God is fair and just and merciful. Where they have no knowledge of his Law they will not be held accountable to it.

## Christ fulfilled the Law on the cross....How do we know that???

*EPH 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,  
EPH 2:15 by abolishing in his flesh **the law** with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,*

- made the two one = gentiles and Jews
- destroyed the barrier= our sin
- **abolishing in his flesh the law**= with his crucifixion
- one new man out of the two, thus making peace= the whole body of Christ

## WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR OUR ACCEPTANCE BY GOD TODAY?

There are 3 possible opinions

1) LAW: man is responsible (by working) to make himself acceptable to God. You are acceptable to God according to what you do..You can easily understand this as the law because of the word "if". A lot of church is this!

Asked what the "work" of God was, Jesus replied in *John 6:28,29 ... "The work of God is this 'believe in the one he has sent'" period!*

2) GRACE: God is responsible to make us acceptable by a gift (unmerited favor-a gift) in order for this to be grace, man cannot contribute to this in any way or we would have a...."If"

*Eph 2:8 for it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--  
Eph 2:9 **not by works**, so that no one can boast.*

This last one was so prevalent (still is) that Paul wrote a whole book (Galatians) to the people in Galatia who were trying to live this way. It is called....

3) GALATIONISM: summed up as "God's grace has made it possible for man to work his way into acceptance or "God loves unconditionally "if" we keep his rules.

How can you work for a free gift?? People are attracted to the gospel and then the church says once you're in the fold you must revert to #2#3. What does the Bible really say?

*ROM 11:16 If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.*

Q. Who is the root? Jesus Q. Who are the branches? Christians

*GAL 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."  
GAL 3:14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit.*

*ROM 5:18 Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.*

*ROM 5:19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.*

*ROM 5:20 The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more,*

*ROM 5:21 so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Q. Of the three possible answers above which is correct?? Grace!!!!

THE NEW COVENANT (Very Interesting It Is Given In The OT But Fulfilled In The Nt.

Jeremiah IS ASKING GOD "WHAT ABOUT THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT given to the JEWS.

GOD SAYS A NEW COVENANT WILL BE IN EFFECT.

*JER 31:31 "The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.*

*JER 31:32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD.*

*JER 31:33 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.*

*JER 31:34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of*

*them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."*

OLD COVENANT THE LAW IS WRITTEN ON STONE TABLETS-  
NEW COVENANT WRITTEN ON THEIR HEARTS

THE NEW COVENANT CONSISTS OF THREE ASPECTS

1) INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*GAL 3:13 **Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law** by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."*

*GAL 3:14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that we might receive the **promise of the Spirit**.*

the promise of the Spirit.= indwelling of the Holy Spirit!

2) FORGIVENESS

*"For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."*

3) CLEANSING (SAME AS FORGIVENESS IN JER.)

*EZE 36:24 "For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.*

*EZE 36:25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.*

*EZE 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.*

*EZE 36:27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.*

*EZE 36:28 You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God.*

JESUS REFERRED TO THIS INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN..

*JOH 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."*

*JOH 3:4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"*

*JOH 3:5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.*

*JOH 3:6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.*

*JOH 3:7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'*

(OTHER REFERENCES: READ JOEL 2:28, ZACHARIAH 12:10,13) (SOME IN ISAIAH ALSO)

Jesus himself says he inaugurates the New Covenant (and we celebrate it every time we do communion).

*Luke 22:19-20*

*And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."*

*[20] In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.*

Q. DO YOU WANT TO BE SURE THAT THE **OLD COVENANT** IS DONE AWAY WITH???

HEBREWS 8:6 (WRITTEN TO THE NEW TESTAMENT/NEW COVENANT JEWS)

HEB 8:6 But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

HEB 8:7 For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another.

HEB 8:8 But God found fault with the people and said: "The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.

HEB 8:9 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

HEB 8:10 This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

HEB 8:11 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

HEB 8:12 For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

**HEB 8:13 By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.**

A HEBREWS 8:6-13 - BETTER COVENANT (BETTER THAN THE MOSAIC COVENANT) IT REPLACES THE OLD COVENANT -THE FIRST IS OBSOLETE

If Jesus says he set aside the first covenant (The Law) for the New Covenant – don't let anyone – RELIGIOUS ARE NOT try to put you back under the other one.

THE LAW??..... FULFILLED!!

*HEB 10:1 The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming--not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.*

*HEB 10:2 If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.*

*HEB 10:3 But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins,*

*HEB 10:4 because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*

*HEB 10:5 Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;*

*HEB 10:6 with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased.*

*HEB 10:7 Then I said, 'Here I am--it is written about me in the scroll--I have come to do your will, O God.'"*

*HEB 10:8 First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them" (although the law required them to be made).*

*HEB 10:9 Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second.*

*HEB 10:10 And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

In the past, blood always signified death (literally and figuratively). With the shedding of Jesus blood it now signified life. A very dramatic ending to an old way.

When we celebrate communion, we celebrate the fact that Jesus instituted the "new covenant:

*LUK 22:19 And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."*

*LUK 22:20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the **new covenant** in my blood, which is poured out for you."*

#### A THE AUTHOR OF HEBREWS (NT) REPEATS THE NEW COVENANT (GIVEN IN THE OT) TO CONVERTED JEWS

*HEB 10:16 "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."*

*COL 2:13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,*

*COL 2:14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.*

*COL 2:15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

*COL 2:16 Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.*

*COL 2:17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.*

*COL 2:20 Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules:*

*COL 2:23 Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.*

#### STILL THINK YOU NEED TO KEEP THE LAW TO GET TO HEAVEN?

*Ja 2:10 "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all"*

*Gal 5:6 "for in Christ Jesus neither circumcision (the law) nor uncircumcision means anything but faith working in love."*

Circumcision was a work or requirement that the Galatians required after accepting Jesus Christ. Get circumcised and then go to church on Saturday.

*Romans 10: 4 For Christ is the end of the law for the righteous, to everyone who believed.*

## **The Bottom Line**

If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior you are no longer under the law, but are under the New Covenant. If you choose to not accept the New Covenant and go back under the Law – if you stumble in one point (one lust filled thought for example) you are guilty of breaking every commandment. You don't want to be under the Law – you want to be under Grace or the New Covenant!

You worship God – EVERYDAY ... and go to worship with other believers when you want to and on whatever day you want to. It is no longer a condition to adhere to anymore than killing two lambs every Sunday or lighting a barbecue pit is on Saturday. You do this because you want to , not because you have to.