

Newness of Life!

What Does It Look Like?

By B. D. Tate

God's grace will never lead us into sin IT LEADS (US OVER SIN AND) INTO DOMINION IN HIM! To walk in dominion means life (Sozo) as God has it...to receive joy...live in Peace and freedom from being ***self occupied***. We are to become Christ occupied...for as long as we are **self occupied** we are under law!

Why do ***we think*** we lack faith? Why do ***we think*** we are weak in belief? Why do we disqualify ourselves from believing God? It is because we are **short sighted**, and **have forgotten** (or never were taught) **what Christ has done!** We do not believe the Word of God plainly spoken. We are still seeing life through the judgment of the flesh.

2Pe 1:9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has **forgotten** that he **was cleansed** from his old sins.

We have forgotten we are cleansed from our old sins! *Under the law* we are always vulnerable to judgment, accusations, and condemnation never measuring up...The devils accuse us of sin and it keep us in condemnation...**but where there is no law no conviction and nothing sticks because there is nothing to condemn us with...They can't accuse us of anything that we will accept if we are no longer going to accept the law having dominion over us**

because we died to it to live in newness of life (Rom. 6:4). In Christ, in the Spirit we have dominion over the law because of Him! This is why we get what we believe and not what we deserve!

Ga 5:18 But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are **not under the law**.

We are Translated by Faith Into Grace!

The power of sin is the law (I Cor. 15:56). If we are no longer under the law then **sin has no more power over us!** If sin has no power over us the demonic have no power over us either. ***If we believe*** we are forgiven **of all sin** then the law has no power to keep us in it. Addictions, bad habits, continual returning to sinful ways are powered by the law in **reproducing it** in us (Gen. 1); however, the power of grace is "neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more!" **If we will embrace the power of grace to translate us out from under sin's dominion from our heart, we will see freedom.**

Freedom from Addictions

This freedom will manifest as God's deliverance from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of His dear Son. We'll experience freedom to live in newness of life. Therefore speak to the mountain of bad behavior, addictions, fear, and command it in Jesus' name to be removed (Mark 11:23, 24). Then accept your acceptance in Christ and begin to **expect**

the grace of God to change your heart from the inside

out. The desires and lusts will die and lose power (wither away) while the pleasure and joy of the Lord will be your ever growing strength. It is supernatural, it is the Spirit, and it is our inheritance in Him—this is the children's bread (Matt. 15:26).

1Co 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and **the strength of sin is the law.**

Ga 3:12 Yet the **law is not of faith**, but "the man who does them shall live by them."

What is the law to us?

The law ***is subject to us*** and **established in us**. Jesus was a man born under law and subject to human limitations however, because He was filled with the Holy Spirit and walked in the fullness of grace and truth ***He had dominion over the law.***

Consider that Jesus paid taxes, he was limited in time and space, wore clothes, ate food, drank wine, traveled on foot, sailed on boats, slept, hungered, thirst, all in the likeness of man...but then was invigorated with manna from above, walked on water, translated the boat immediately to the other side of the lake, fed thousands with a few loaves and fishes, turned water into wine, calmed the winds and the waves, cursed the fig tree and it withered and died...it took him as many days to walk from city to city as any man, he

obeyed the laws of the land, he kept the laws, ...however he worked on the Sabbath by healing, he ate food without washing hands, he approved of David and his men eating the show bread in the tabernacle that was only lawful for the priests to eat, what is going on here?

The law of Moses told us that the curse of the law brings sickness, disease, death, and all manner of illnesses...but Jesus overrode the curse of the law and healed multitudes...The law is Holy and righteous bringing back upon everyone what is sown...yet Jesus overrode the law of sowing and reaping by giving us what He's sown and taking upon Himself what we'd sown... they could grab and hold him, they arrested him, they beat him and crucified Him...Yet Truly Jesus is the Savior and Lord of all things...He conquered the grave of sin and death and gave us righteousness in His Name!

-Jesus said that the Sabbath was made for man not man for the Sabbath.

-The laws are also made for man not man for the laws.

-Marriage is made for man not man for marriage.

-Judgment is made for man not man for judgment.

-Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's.

-Render unto the law what is the law's and unto grace what is grace!

-Authority was made for man not man for authority.

-Dominion was made for man not man made for dominion.

Sin caused us to fall under the things that were made for us. We fell from grace to become enslaved by the things we were meant to have dominion over.

When we live under the law it has dominion over us. When we live to grace we have dominion over the law. When we live according to the flesh, that is self centered, trying to be our own god, make our own way, earn what God has given us, we are under the law and the law brings back to us what we have sown. When we live according to the Spirit, that is Christ centered, living to the true God, under His authority, accepting our acceptance, believing Christ has fulfilled the law for us, believing we've been made righteous in Him, we are over the law and have dominion over it. We are sowing to the Spirit and it is life, health, and peace.

Do we live to the law or not?

It is not that we don't live to the law but it is which law we live to! Which is the best law to live to?

Ro 8:2 For the **law of the Spirit of life** in Christ Jesus has made me free **from the law of sin and death.**

Jas 2:12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged **by the law of liberty.**

Ro 13:10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore **love is the fulfillment of the law.**

Ro 3:27 Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. **By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.**

When a woman is in labor and her husband is speeding to get her to the hospital in time for the delivery, everyone understands **that a greater law** is overriding the situation. Even if a police car pulls him over, once the policeman knows what is going on, he will speed in front of them escorting the husband breaking the laws to do it. A greater law, a superior law, a law of love overrides the law of speeding...for the moment.

A **greater law of love dwelled in Jesus** so that when the law of the earth failed to meet the needs it was overridden. Why would the law which is holy ever fail to meet the needs of man? It is because of sin...sin misses the mark and the law exposes it...the law cannot make anyone holy in itself it can only bring back what is sown. The law was given because of transgressions to expose sin...However God had created all the laws of the universe for our benefit...

What are miracles, signs, and wonders? They are provisions, protections, restorations, that have overridden the laws of nature to meet the need according **to the law of love**. Miracles are correctives to override the consequences of sin.

God hates legalism which is strict adherence to laws when it **prevents the superior law of love from functioning in our life**. The laws were made for us to provide order and understanding but sin corrupted the results. Jesus never broke the laws of the Sabbath ***just to***

prove He could. He did it to bring about the ***superior law of love to meet people's needs (that sin produced).***

Games Rules and Laws

When we play a game the laws or rules of the game are meant to serve us. Each game is defined by its rules. It is in playing by the rules that we get enjoyment in playing a game. When we cheat or break the rules we are diminishing the glory of that game. When we play by the rules and win there is pleasure, meaning, and glory. When we play by the rules and lose there is defeat. We don't play a game to lose, we play a game to win...a game is for entertainment, challenge, competition, fun...and for helping us to understand life. When we are skillful and playing a game and become very good, even dominating what do we call this? We call it mastering the game. The game produced the opportunity to achieve, grow, and master or take dominion—this is a good thing. When the game rules dominate us what do we call that? We say that the game is playing us!

God's laws were meant for us to dominate; but because of sin we've have been dominated by the law. **This is the game of life** and it is for real—for keeps. The rules and laws we were born under are perfect and pure. We were supposed to win, have dominion, exercise authority over the laws but through ***sin we were defeated by them.*** We were all lost in trespasses and sins and the curse of the law bore

down on all us keeping us in guilt and condemnation. However, there is a **greater law of love that supersedes the law**—the curse of the law. This **law of love** in Christ played the game of life and won. The game is still going on and if we play it according to the flesh, under the law, the curse and sin will win **and we'll stay defeated**. **If we play this game according the Spirit**, the law of faith, **the law of love** and liberty (being no longer under the law), we win, **we have what Jesus provided**.

Why Mixing Faith and Law is Wrong

When we were living to the law as part of our Christian walk (Believing that we were still required to keep the Ten Commandments, to keep the first and second greatest commandments: to love God with all our heart, to love our neighbor as our self) **we were subjecting ourselves to the power of sin again and again**. **The law is not of faith** it has to do with the flesh, sin nature and the laws of the earth. **We believe in the law of Moses for the purpose that the law was given**, that is to condemn sin and bring all under guilt before Him. The laws of the earth expose all of us as sinners the reaping shows the fruit of our labors.

Ro 3:19 Now we know that whatever the law says, **it says to those who are under the law**, that every mouth may be stopped, **and all the world may become guilty before God**.

But now, **in newness of life**, we no longer relate to laws, regulations, statues, or standards of do's and don'ts to find peace with God, to be justified before him; **but we relate to the Lord in His Spirit**. It went from legalism, impersonal and strict adherences **based on our efforts**, to liberty in an intimate and personal relationship with Christ **based on grace and truth because of what He's done**. We don't relate to the law anymore we relate to Jesus in the Spirit by faith. **We are translated from the law of sin and death to the law of love, liberty and faith in Christ. It goes from being on us to being in Him.**

Here is another passage that spells out the gospel of grace:

Col. 2:8 **Beware lest anyone cheat you** through philosophy and empty deceit, **according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world** (the law), **and not according to Christ**.

Beware, don't be fooled, don't be cheated by wrong teaching, believing, and following traditions of men that keep us under the law!

9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;
10 and **you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.(the law)**

We've been made complete in Him we have all received of His fullness who is above all things and has dominion over all laws.

11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, **by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh**, by the circumcision of Christ,

Putting off the body of sins of the flesh is casting away, to consider it removed, that it has no power over us because we are in Him and He is over all things.

12 buried with Him in baptism, **in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God,** who raised Him from the dead.

It's what we believe about what He's done. It is His work in us a gift so that no flesh may boast in His presence. It is by faith, not by sight, not by feelings, and not based upon the facts of this world.

13 And you, **being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,**

We were defeated and under the curse of the law in our natural man. If we continue to think as a natural man, live as one, restrict our believing as one, we remain dead and under the law. In fact Paul wrote that we are as babies in Christ living as mere men when we should be living to the Spirit and mature in understanding what God's grace has given us.

14 **having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way,** having nailed it to the cross.

The law's claims and records of wrongs against us **have been wiped away!** The law has been fully satisfied in the atonement of the cross as far as God is concerned. The law was contrary against us because we were sinners **violating the law of love constantly.** This conflict, hostility, vengeance, and justice against us has been taken out of the way! **We are no longer to accept the judgment of the flesh** but believe in Jesus and live to newness of life. We are to live to the judgment of the Spirit through the blood of Jesus.

15 **Having disarmed principalities and powers,** He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

The law has been disarmed against us to those who are born again and in Christ. As we believe in grace and claim the benefit of the cross we are walking according to the judgment of the Spirit! Furthermore, the enemy of our souls has no more power to keep us in condemnation and guilt by accusing us of being lawbreakers. Their power was the law's curse against us but that has been removed so they are powerless—to those who know and believe.

16 So let no one judge you...

So don't be judged according to the flesh anymore. **Don't accept** the guilt and condemnation of being a sinner. Although we are still in the flesh and sin all of this is paid for by Jesus even before we committed sin. Two thousand years ago Jesus said, "It is finished." **Therefore stand fast in the liberty of Christ** and don't let any teaching, tradition, and

demonic accusations, steal from you again. We do not judge anyone or even ourselves according to the flesh. If we judge, **we judge according to the Spirit** and what Christ has done for us. We accept what He has made us in grace. Amen.

In Conclusion:

We live in this world but are no longer of it...by living to love from God we establish and fulfill the law...we live in this realm ***keeping the law of love*** and thereby live to the Spirit which makes us *masters over the law*...not to break the law but to fulfill it and have dominion over it...to win...to please the Lord, the ***law becomes annulled towards us because in keeping the Spirit*** we do not offend...where love reigns there is no law needed:

Gal. 5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. **Against such there is no law.**

An illustration: since we are no longer under the law's dominion the enemy cannot accuse us of being lawbreakers. Even though the laws are still in force in this world, and in the flesh we through sin nature have broken those laws, the law has no claim because of the ***law of faith*** in Christ—because all of our sins are forgiven. Satan and the demonic will accuse us of law breaking, and even our own sinful hearts will condemn us according to the facts of this world—if we do not believe we are forgiven; however, because of the blood of Christ the law is fulfilled in Him and has no claim because we are born again and live to the Spirit.

It is as if the law doesn't exist because it holds no power against us—**Christ paid the debt even before we incurred it.** There is nothing to the Spirit man within us that is subject to the law because the ***fruit of the Spirit*** in us manifests so that there is no law against it...It's like a road that has no speed limit...and we are driving on it through the Spirit...the accuser comes to accuse us of speeding but there is no law to judge us by...the accusations can fly but the law has been removed...this is what Jesus has done. Someone might say well if there is no law then I can drive any speed I want to, I can do whatever I want to...this however would **only be an issue to a self centered person.** **Only the flesh looks at this freedom and thinks I can sin all I want to now because of grace.** Nothing could be further from the truth...if I died to the law and live in the Spirit, the flesh is done, self centeredness is done...**I would have no desire except to live to the Spirit,** and do nothing of my own but only what is pleasing to the Father. I will to keep the law of love...which would do no harm. ***If as a Christian I do not use my liberty to live to the law of love but return to sin,*** I am returning to being under the dominion of the law again. I am a dog returning to its vomit in the eyes of the Lord. Why would I do that? **It would be because I have forgotten what Jesus has done** for me and the abundance of grace given to me, and the gift of righteousness that empowers me over the law of sin and death.

2Pe 1:9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has **forgotten** that he was cleansed from his old sins.

We reign in this life!

- Rom. 5:17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which **receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.**)
- I John 4:17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world.**
- Ga 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, **that he might deliver us from this present evil world,** according to the will of God and our Father: