

The Law Demands But Grace In The Spirit Supplies!

By B. D. Tate

The Law Demands But The Spirit Supplies. The Law Condemns But The Spirit Gives Life.

II Cor. 3:6 "...for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

Consider these differences between the Law of the Old Covenant and Grace in the New Covenant. ***They are not supplemental or to be mixed.*** Paul the apostle goes through great length to explain that the two covenants are completely different and are based on opposing themes. The first is based upon our effort the second is based upon Christ's effort. The first is founded upon the law the second is founded upon faith in God's grace.

Ga 4:30 Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "**Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.**"

The works of righteousness from men has completely failed that was based upon the standards of the law; while ***the gift of righteousness*** has succeeded to provide salvation to all who believe!

Ro 4:16 **Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed,** not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all

Examine These Differences:

The law requires our compliance to the smallest detail; it demands righteousness. Grace through the Spirit forgives and saves us to the ***smallest detail*** through the blood of Christ.

De 27:26 ‘Cursed is the one who does not confirm **all the words of this law** by observing them.’ And all the people shall say, ‘Amen!’

Heb 7:25 Therefore He is also able **to save to the uttermost** those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

The law curses anyone who cannot keep any part of it; by no means will the law overlook sin; the soul that sins shall die. The Spirit blesses anyone who can ***believe in the believing one*** even as small as a mustard seed; grace gives forgiveness of sins in Christ—the gift of righteousness.

De 27:26 ‘**Cursed is the one who does not confirm all the words of this law** by observing them.’ And all the people shall say, ‘Amen!’

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

Ro 8:1 There is therefore **now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus**, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

The law examines us and condemns even the best of us; the law keeps a record of wrongs. Grace through the Spirit in Jesus saves even the worst of us and atones for all sin forever! Grace separates our sins from us as far as the East is from the West.

Ga 3:11 **But that no one is justified by the law** in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."

Eph 2:8 **For by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Heb 10:14 For by one offering He **has perfected forever** those who are being sanctified.

Ps 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

The law burdens us with responsibility, always reminding us that we are falling short and that we are law breakers; it prosecutes us and pronounces "You shall not..." Grace through the Spirit carries us and always reminds us that ***Christ is our righteousness*** and we are new creations, the old is past we are sons and daughters of God.

2Co 3:9 **For if the ministry of condemnation (the law)** had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory.

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.**

Ro 5:17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, **much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

II Cor. 5: 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.

Under the law we are in bondage to sin being ***held captive by the power of the law***. Under grace and the Spirit we are set free in the ***liberty of Christ*** and supplied the power of God to walk in ***newness of life***.

I Cor. 15:56 The sting of death is sin; **and the strength of sin is the law.**

Ro 7:6 **But now we have been delivered from the law**, having died to what we were held by, so **that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit** and not in the oldness of the letter.

Under the law we were provoked, prodded, convicted, oppressed in guilt and shame. Under grace we are empowered, prompted, **supplied** freedom to love God **by His love for us.**

Heb 2:15 "...and release those who through **fear of death** were **all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

Ga 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the **liberty by which Christ has made us free**, and do not be entangled again with **a yoke of bondage.**

Under the law we **related to regulations**, statues, do's and don'ts. Under grace **we relate to Jesus**, see Him in His glory in us, and by the Spirit are **transformed into the same image**...we relate to peace and the joy of the Lord in His pleasure.

Ga 4:21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, **do you not hear the law?**

2Co 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, **beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord**, are being **transformed into the same image from glory to glory**, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Under the law we are constantly reminded of our sin; we are sin conscious. Under grace we are constantly reminded of our acceptance in the beloved...**we are God conscious!**

Ro 3:23 "...for all have sinned and **fall short of the glory of God,**"

Joh 16:8 “And when He (Holy Spirit) has come, **He will convict** the world of sin, **and of righteousness**, and of judgment:

Under the law we labored **for** God’s blessings. Under grace we labor **with and because of** God’s blessings

Deut. 30: 9 “The LORD your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the LORD will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers,

10 **“if you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments** and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2Pe 1:3 “...as His divine power **has given to us all things** that pertain to life and godliness, **through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue**,

Under law we are heavy laden (constant battle), **on our own**, no peace, and no rest for our souls. Under grace we are **yoked with Christ** who gives us strength, has given His peace, He never leaves us nor forsakes us, **and we find rest for our souls**.

Acts. 15: 10 “Now therefore, why do you test God by **putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples** which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear (keeping the law)?

Matt. 11: 28 “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, **and I will give you rest**.

29 **“Take My yoke upon you** and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30 “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Joh 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, **My peace I give to you**; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Under law is the **knowledge of sin**. Under grace and the Spirit **is the knowledge of Christ!**

Ro 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, **for by the law is the knowledge of sin**.
Php 3:10 “**...that I may know Him** and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,”

Under law we were dead in trespasses and sins being **separated from the love of God**. Under grace **we are made alive** and brought new life in Jesus **to know God's love!**

Eph 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,
5 **even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved),
Eph 3:19 **to know the love of Christ** which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
Eph 4:13 till we all come to the **unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God**, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

The law demands and we are bankrupt not having the resources or the love of God in us to measure up or be counted worthy on our own. The law is for sinners, it is natural and it is not of faith. Grace is for the saints; it is supernatural and it is full of faith.

The Spirit supplies and provides abundant grace In Christ Jesus!

We are not of the household of faith for the just enough...We are not given the Spirit for just a little...What God

has done has opened up the storehouse of heaven through Christ Jesus. There is no limit to what God has given. He has poured out His love. He loves us just as He loves the Son. It is not only grace sufficient but abundant grace! The blessing of the Lord is rich; it is not weak and barely able to meet the need...

“O you of little faith!” is also rendered, **“Oh you why do you take so little?”** Why do you believe God only wants to give you just enough? Jesus said:

John 10: 10 “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, **and that they may have it more abundantly.**

Joh 14:14 **“If you ask anything in My name,** I will do it.

Joh 16:24 “Until now you have asked nothing in My name. **Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.**

And Paul wrote:

2Co 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, **that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.**

Ro 8:37 Yet in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through Him who loved us.

Php 4:19 **And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches** in glory by Christ Jesus.

And John wrote:

3Jo 1:2 Beloved, I pray that you may **prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.**

Abundant supply and abundant seed!

“Be it unto you according to your faith” can also be understood, **“You get to decide how much and when!”** Consider

that God supplies abundance in so many ways in creation especially in the area of seeds! Our God is not limited and has provided precious promises that extend His unlimited power to us.

Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to **do exceedingly abundantly above all** that we ask or think, **according to the power that works in us...**

Don't limit God by our worldly and earthly thinking. Don't be blinded by wrong thoughts and wrong imaginations brought to you by past experiences..."Come let us reason together, let us think alike, think my thoughts with me, imagine with me, see what I see!" We have been called to a new kingdom, a heavenly power, we are supernatural beings **joined together** with God's Spirit!

Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and **conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,**

II Cor. 10: 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

5 **casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,**

1Co 6:17 But **he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.**

Joh 17:23 "**I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one,** and that the world may know that You have sent Me, **and have loved them as You have loved Me.**

What does oneness look like? What does this mean to every born again believer?

Let me give an analogy: The Computer & the Internet

The computer represents the soul of every man. The operating system that runs it represents the ***nature of every human being***. The programs that are installed represent the potentials, the creativities, the talents and abilities of every human being.

When we boot up each computer is programmed to bring you a start up page. This page can have icons that represent various programs available for use. There are many predesigned or pre-programmed items running in the background that represent the **basic needs or instinct of every person**.

There is this aspect of every computer called **RAM** or random access memory where all of the programs are waiting in the wings to be called forth for various work and tasks. Until we click an icon this RAM area remains open, waiting, ready...**this area is neutral** in that it doesn't decide what gets called forth ***but runs whatever the controller presses into service***. Let's call this area, the RAM aspect of the computer, **the heart of man**. Out of the RAM all programs are placed into service to accomplish tasks to get work done. **Out of the heart of man flow all the issues of life (Pr. 4:23)**. It is the heart that determines what tasks, work, or results we get in life.

When we are born into the world *we are not connected to God's Spirit*. We were born disconnected or separated from God. The Bible explains that sin has separated us from Him. We were born into sin and darkness. Darkness represents disconnection, lack of communication, and an inability to grasp spiritual things.

When we become born again ***we are connected to God's Spirit and made alive to Him***. We can communicate and commune with God...we were once lost to God but now we are made alive and found in Christ Jesus.

With a computer when we bring it home it is not connected to the world. It remains a single unit *until we connect it*

to the internet. When we connect it to the internet we are connecting it to life, to information, to unlimited access...**in the pure sense**, without regard to evil...a computer's connection to the internet is **like our born again spirit connecting to the Holy Spirit**.

When we go to the internet to find information, new programs, updates, etc...there is a process of **downloading** these things. An internet site has links that read, **"To download this program click here."** If we click it (making the request) downloading immediately begins and depending upon the size of the program and/or the speed of the internet connection, or our computer's capabilities, it could take seconds to several minutes for the download to occur. Once it is downloaded **we must activate it** by "clicking" on the download now in our computer. Then the screen produces a box that asks us if we want to **"run"** the program or save it. If we run the program it enters into the RAM and *becomes active*. We can use it, work with it, apply it to our computer's needs, etc.

This process is similar to our heart. We hear the word of God, we sense the grace and power of the promises, **and we begin to download it to our life by the attention and focus we give it**. Through our meditation it is being processed into our heart. Then we'll have the opportunity to **apply it**. This is like the prompt "Do you want to run this program?" This downloading comes from our spirit connected to God's Spirit. It is like the computer accessing the internet. James told us (James 2:20) Faith without works is dead...it is unused, waiting to be activated!

We can have complete access to the internet **and never use its potential**. We can have all the programs on our computer and not know how to use them. We can be frustrated with trying to work a document and wanting it to have certain styles, inserts, pictures or graphs, to do what we need it to do but because of ignorance or lack of knowledge, **not use what is available**. Likewise, our faith can be limited by our mixing the truth with

worldly thinking. WE can be frustrated about the promises of God knowing they are available **but may have never downloaded them into our heart.**

God has already decided and given us all the things that pertain to life and godliness. He has already blessed us with all spiritual blessings. He has already opened the door, given us what we asked for, provided what we have sought for...**it all resides in Jesus!** If however, our heart is filled with other programming (of the world) we are not prioritizing the truth and grace given to us—it remains estranged from us (Gal. 5:4).

We cannot serve two masters, we can't operate two different operating systems...we can't work on two programs at the same time...we can switch back and forth but only one can be central and working at one time—**we can only focus on one thing at a time.** One is always subject to the other...**but we decide which one is supreme.**

Along these lines I want to give you another Gem

Have you ever heard the internet connection noise? This is true especially when a fax is about to occur there is a noise of electronic pulses, bleeps, or waves being broadcast. I don't speak this language **but my computer and my fax machine does.** They like it a lot. Once the connection is made the noise fades away but for the brief seconds I can hear it.

This reminds me of speaking in tongues! There is a connection going on and it is language I don't understand but my spirit does! The Holy Spirit (the internet) is communicating with my spirit and downloading at the highest level and speed. **Then in time my spirit translates to my mind and heart revealing to me the things I didn't understand or know.** If this has happened once it has happened a thousand times.

1Co 14:14 For if I pray in a tongue, **my spirit prays**, but my understanding is unfruitful.

1Co 14:2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men **but to God**, for no one understands him; however, **in the spirit he speaks mysteries**.

1Co 14:13 Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue **pray that he may interpret**.

What is the purpose of speaking, or praying in the Spirit? It is download time! It is revelation time! It is answers time! **It is refreshing time where our spirit is built up!**

1Co 14:4 He who speaks in a tongue **edifies himself**,

Jude 1:20 But you, beloved, **building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit**,

1Co 14:14 **For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays**,

When we became born again we were given the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5). When we were joined with the Lord we got all that we'd ever need. **We got all that the Spirit is and all that Jesus is (I John 4:17)**. This means we got all of the fruit of the Spirit and all the gifts of the Spirit. It is the Spirit's will to exercise these gifts in our life for the purposes given in scripture.

Therefore, I exhort you to release this awesome gift into your life by beginning by faith to pray in the spirit (tongues). There is more information available as listed below:

The Gift of Tongues by Smith Wigglesworth

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit by B. D. Tate

The Purposes of Praying in the Spirit (tongues) by B. D. Tate

In Conclusion

As we understand the differences between the Old and New Covenants we can begin to discern and sift out the law in our

life. When we live to the law we are living in the flesh. When we live to the law we are estranging ourselves from Christ and grace profits us nothing (Gal. 5:1-4). When we examine and focus on grace we see a whole new world. This newness of life restores our relationship to God based upon His love, His gifts, His mercy, and His supply! From the very beginning God has always meant to be our source, our supply, and sustainer. We are responders to His grace! As we look further we see awesome things in creation, in relationships, and especially in His Word that show us how deep, how long, how wide, and fully God is love! When we look at seeds even from one tree we see **ABUNDANCE!**

Now that we are born again we have **been joined to this abundant life in Jesus**. We are connected to the unlimited One just as a computer is connected to the internet and to us that seems vast and beyond our comprehension. We limit God by our wrong thinking, by being bound by the law, by not understanding God's nature of abundance, and by not accessing the fullness of His grace towards us. **What we think becomes what we believe and what we believe influences or determines what we see in this life.**