

We Can't Beat the Law! But Jesus did...

By B. D. Tate

Misdirected

So often it seems that we attribute to the devil so much of *what the law is doing in our lives*. Whenever we feel oppressed, condemned, burdened, guilty, and unworthy it seems we are so ready to say the devil is giving me a hard time.

Many times when people are sick, diseased, depressed, the symptoms are rampant, feeling ill or weak, it seems we are taught that the devil may be making it so.

Many times when accidents happen and when people die, when circumstances are out of whack, when the weather is bad, or the stock market drops, when things just don't work right, it seems many want to believe that Satan has come against them.

Satan, the devil, the deceiver, has no power to make us think this way or that; evil spirits can't make us sick or give us cancer; and they have no direct power to affect the weather, the death of anyone or prevent things from not working. The demonic beings have no way to express themselves in this world except through **some body**. Consider these two verses:

Gal. 6: 7 **Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.**

8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

This teaches us that God is not mocked, thwarted, or wrong, saying that whatever a man sows that he will also reap. The demonic have nothing to do with sowing and reaping and they cannot stop its power. In other words ***don't be deceived*** into thinking that other forces are involved than sowing and reaping!

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

This verse clearly places the power of sin not in the devil's hands but in the law! We can't go around saying "the devil made me do it!" The truth is the demonic have very little actual power to control anyone until they possess someone.

Think about this for a moment, why would a demon want to possess someone? The reason is so that they have a way to express themselves in this world. Only those who have a body have power to affect this world. In truth then, whoever controls, influences, directs the thoughts, actions, and words of human beings rules this world. This is still true today.

Only God Can Change/alter the Laws or perform Miracles!

Consider this truth from the Old Testament:

Ex. 7:1 So the LORD said to Moses: "See, **I have made you as God to Pharaoh**, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet.

2 "You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall speak to Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land.

3 "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and **multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt.**

God said to Moses I will make you **as god to Pharaoh**. How does He do this? He did it by using Moses as His instrument to deliver the people from under the burden of Egypt, through the signs, wonders, and miracles. God said "that you may know that there is no other God besides me" He multiplied his signs among them.

Isa 43:10 "You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, **That you may know and believe Me**, And understand that I am He. **Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me.**

This theme in the Old Testament is repeated again and again "**that you may know**" and then God delivered, healed, worked signs and wonders, and manifested His power again and again.

There is Only One God!

In the contest between the 450 Prophets of Baal and Elijah, there can't be a **more vivid portrayal** of what this means. God instructed Elijah to challenge the prophets of Baal before the people to finally decide who is really God.

1 Kings 18:22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men.

23 "Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on the wood, but put no fire *under it*; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay *it* on the wood, but put no fire *under it*.

24 "**Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God who answers by fire, He is God.**" So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken."

If you read the account the prophets of Baal called upon their gods to answer by fire from morning till night and nothing happened. Paul the apostle taught us that any worship of idols, worship of other gods is the worship of demons. If Satan or the demons had power to affect the world they certainly would have taken this opportunity to do so. But God set up this contest in order to show us that *there is no other God besides Him.*

36 And it came to pass, at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "**LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You *are* God in Israel and I *am* Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word.**

37 "Hear me, O LORD, hear me, **that this people may know that You *are* the LORD God,** and *that* You have turned their hearts back to You again."

38 **Then the fire of the LORD fell** and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that *was* in the trench.

39 Now when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces; and they said, "**The LORD, He *is* God! The LORD, He *is* God!"**

It would be simple to ***destroy this argument*** that God set before the people, "that you may know that I am God" through signs and wonders by another "god" performing them. We have been deceived into thinking that there are others who can perform miracles, but according to scripture only God is God. How do we know this? We know this by his signs, wonders, and miracles!

We Give Too Much Credit to the Demonic

The major point I'm addressing is that we have given so much credit to the demonic over so much that we experience in life. As I listed before we give ***the devil credit*** for our thoughts,

our fears, our depression, to our physical illnesses and diseases to include almost all negative consequences. *He has certainly been exalted in our midst.* When the scriptures relate to the power of the devil as god upon the earth we can see where confusion comes in. When the scriptures speak about his oppression and works keeping us in bondage we can see where these exaltations come from. Stop and think about this, Satan and/or the demonic are not all knowing (including able to predict the future), everywhere present, and all powerful, they cannot read our minds or see into our imaginations. They must understand us by our own words and actions just like people do. There is another **power source** that does explain why all of us are oppressed!

In other words, the devil and the demonic have no real power of their own but they do take advantage of this other power source. As the verses mentioned before say that whatever a man sows that shall he also reap, this means that the **law is the power behind everything**. And if the **power of sin is the law then what is left?** The enemy therefore is influencing mankind to sow badly so that we reap badly, then they ride the power of the law against us! The oppression is also keeping us in darkness about what is going on. The oppression is sin in us being manipulated by evil to bring back on us the **curse of the law**.

We Can't Escape the Law!

This brings me to the title of this message: **We Can't Beat the Law!** We have often attributed the law's power in bringing back to us what we have sown to the devil. **The truth is it is the law's judgment, the law's enforcement, the law's force that we are dealing with twenty-four seven!** It is the law that is bringing back on us guilt, shame, punishment, consequences, judgment, anxiety, wrath, sickness and disease, and all manner of evil in this world. The law is not evil but when its power **is faithful to execute**

the sowing and reaping of evil things it becomes a curse to us. **The curse of the law is what we are dealing with all of the time.**

It is the law that exists everywhere and all the time. It is the law that **penetrates** our being and into our thoughts, imaginations, actions, and words. God revealed the law to us, God is the law, God is holy, the law is holy, and quite frankly it **can't be beat, thwarted, cheated, or overruled!**

It is like the programming in a video game. Whatever is programmed cannot be changed, undone, or cheated. If we play that game we MUST deal with the program of that game. Likewise, we are born into the world that God made, His judgments (law) are everywhere in the earth (Ps. 105:7), **they rule and govern all the time**—there is no escape from its power. We were born into the world in sin but it is the law that brings about the consequences of sin. Without the law there would be no reaping, there would be no bondages, no sickness or disease, or curse upon humanity!

There is no place we can go where the law doesn't affect everything we do. For example gravity is a manifestation of one of the physical laws we've been born under. Gravity is everywhere in the universe and it is everywhere upon this earth. Flying an airplane uses the force of gravity in the law of lift it doesn't cancel it. If a plane stops using lift and its engine quits what happens? The plane drops out of the sky because gravity is still in operating.

We can't beat gravity it will never cease to have dominion over us; however, we can use it to our benefit or our detriment. Remember this verse?

Duet 30:19 "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, **that I have set before you life and death, blessing and**

cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

It is God who has given us dominion in the earth and with it blessing and cursing and both are products of sowing and reaping! It is the law of God that operates everywhere here on the earth and **it is the law that brings about condemnation to those who commit sin or evil.**

Now In Regards to the Law

The law was established in order to show whether or not the people would obey God's commandments. It was also established to set before the people life and death, blessing and cursing. If the people walked in the law everything they did would be blessed if however, they did not keep it, they would be cursed:

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!'

De 28:61 "Also every sickness and every plague, which *is* not written in this Book of the Law, **will the LORD bring upon you until you are destroyed.**

The Law of Moses was revealed and with it conditional blessings. **The law would operate day and night acting as a judge, a referee, or an umpire bringing back on the people what was just.** Like a worker is getting paid for the labor so the people would get paid according to the law.

When the people broke the law the only way they could recover was to process through the offerings described in the book of Leviticus. There were trespass offerings, sin offerings, grain and sacrifice offerings, burnt offerings, and peace offerings...

Ps 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect...

This tells us that there is no flaw or glitch or gap in the law for it is perfect. Perfection is attributed to God alone therefore as God is everywhere, all knowing, all powerful, so is the law—perfect in every way.

From the Psalms the law is described in ways that penetrate our whole being:

- 1) Making wise the simple; the law is truth; gives discernment
- 2) Rejoicing the heart; delighting the soul—we are relate to it
- 3) Enlightening the eyes; gives understanding; a lamp & light
- 4) Enduring forever; it never stops working
- 5) Judgments are righteous; it is completely fair with no respecter of persons
- 6) Warned by the law
- 7) Fear of the law is cleansing; for the law is pure
- 9) The law instructs
- 10) Great peace have they who stay in the law

The Gospel Fulfilled the Law (It satisfied justice and judgment against Sinners)!

The law is operating even after it is fulfilled in Christ Jesus. It is **when** we are living in Him that it has **no claim** on us...

Mt 5:18 “For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means **pass from the law till all is fulfilled.**

The law was until John the Baptist fulfilled His mission. This means that no new law is added, this means that in Christ Jesus we have **a new covenant**...

Lu 16:16 “The law and the prophets were until John.

Joh 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

How the law penetrates:

Ro 2:14 for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves,

Ro 2:15 who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)

We experience in our everyday life a relationship to the law of God whether we know the Law of Moses or not. The nature of this world is under the law.

Ga 4:4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

We were all born of a woman and therefore we were born under the law. How do we experience the law? The law is written in our hearts. The law penetrates our conscience; the law permeates our thoughts, imaginations, and visions.

We wrestle within our own being with the law through our constant battle over right and wrong; we are constantly judging, excusing, justifying ourselves to ourselves over our actions, decisions, thoughts, and motives. When we see a grave site with the letters “RIP” we are speaking about this constant issue within, wrestling with the law, finally being over!

Guilt & Knowledge of Sin

Where does guilt come from? It comes from wrestling with the law! Where does condemnation come from? It comes from the law...

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 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.

Joh 3:18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

We are all condemned already *by the law* because we are all law breakers! There is no one who is righteous, no not one; for all have fallen short of the glory of God! We are all cursed with a curse having been born into sin and the power of sin is the law! Who can beat the law? Who can escape its judgment? Who can claim innocence? There is no one for we are all bound under the power of the law in its judgment awaiting the righteous wrath of a Holy God.

Ro 4:15 because the law brings about wrath;

Ro 5:20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound.

Ro 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.

Ro 7:8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire.

Ro 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.

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

The Every Day Battle With The Law!

Therefore every day we must deal with the law of God pressing into our conscience, judging our heart as sinners and evil doers. ***The law reveals and exposes our sinful desires and passions***, bringing about guilt and condemnation and producing in us fear, anxiety, and depression. Depression comes from a heavy heart of fear and anxiety...

We live with the burden of guilt, **heavy laden with responsibility for our sin**, our darkness and fear. The more we labor to **justify ourselves to relieve the guilt** the more we entangle ourselves with the law. Our pride works against us to blind us to our need for redemption and deliverance from the law! **We feel we must do something, earn our way, justify our existence, and show some means to be worthy**. Yet, we are bound under its constant condemnation. Who can deliver themselves from this oppression! In truth the law is oppressive ***constantly calling out our law breaking***, our shame, and reminding us of our wrongs, faults and shortcomings. We mistakenly think that all of this comes from the devil or the demonic trying to beat us down...

For in truth our own heart condemns us...from a sin consciousness that is revealed in the law!

I John 3:20 "For if our heart condemns us..."

1Jo 3:21 Beloved, **if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.**

Heb 9:14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, **cleanse your conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?

Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a true **heart** in full assurance of faith, **having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience** and our bodies washed with pure water.

What does the devil and the demonic do? They take advantage of our predicament and jump on to accuse us to ourselves; they ride the back of the ***curse of the law*** to add to our guilt and condemnation. They use it to get their agenda done through us **especially when we eventually give up trying to be good**. They remind us that God (law) is after us, God is angry with us; God's wrath deserves to be poured out upon us...and we ignorantly comply, accept, and ***receive this with self loathing, self condemnation, and insecurity*** because we believe we are not right before God...

There is a battle raging in the unbeliever; there is a battle raging in the believer over the law against us!

Ro 7:23 **But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.**

Who will deliver us from this constant torment? Who will deliver us from this oppression? I am helpless and have no power against the law...

Rom. 7: 24 O wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death?**

25 **I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!** So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

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.**

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

How? By the righteous requirement of the law being fulfilled in us through our Lord that's how!

Ro 8:4 that **the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us** who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

It is the ***gift of righteousness*** that comes by faith in what Jesus has done for us! ***Salvation from sin is also deliverance from the righteous judgment of the law!*** When we were delivered from the kingdom of darkness we were delivered from works of the law!

Ro 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

The works I do now focus on my believing in Jesus with all that it means and to respond in obedience to the faith! **It is obedience to faith not obedience to the law!** In the new covenant when I became born again I died to the law! I am born into a new kingdom of love and grace...

Ga 2:19 “For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

I am no longer under the law but under grace!

Ro 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

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

For Example, Our burden to love God with all our heart is under the law!

Matt. 22:37 Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

38 "This is the first and great commandment.

39 "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

40 "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

This means that our focus to love God places on us a burden we can't keep any more than trying to keep the whole law! **We are under grace therefore it is not about our love for God but His love for us** (See booklet entitled "*Our Focus Is to Know How Much God's Loves Us!*).

Conclusion

This means I must change what I allow, accept, and experience in my daily life! I am no longer going to be under the dominion of sin and **therefore under the constant condemnation of the law. The law no longer has any claim against me because ALL OF MY SINS, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE, are paid in full.** By faith I now accept my new life in Him. By faith I rebuke guilt, condemnation, shame, fear, anxiety, the sense of unworthiness, **removing any power of the law to judge me!** My sin consciousness no longer applies because through the blood I am

cleansed. I am delivered by the one who suffered and died for me. There is NOW NO CONDEMNATION IN ME! I am set free, by faith, therefore ***I will not soak in guilt, I will not cower in condemnation, I will not basked in unworthiness because Jesus has become my life.*** In Him I have forgiveness of sins; I have new life, **new standing today, tomorrow and forever!** In Him, I am made righteous before MY God and Our God. ***I will not live in the pit, sorrow, shame, and despair;*** I will arise out of all of it by faith in my redeemer who has placed me in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

God is no longer holding my sin against me. God is not angry with me. **God is not disappointed with me** because my life under the law is over I died with Christ (Gal. 2:20)...now I live to Jesus. I please the Lord ***when I believe Him, when I accept my gift of righteousness, when I dismiss the claims against me of the law from a guilty conscience, when I forgive myself and accept my new life in Jesus.*** I am free by faith through the grace of the Spirit abiding in me!

I live by faith in what Jesus has done and God has made me in Christ. I am born again of the same nature, the same Spirit, the same love, peace, joy, and righteousness of Christ...***I am a new creation under grace...no longer oppressed by the law or the devil...***I am a child of the most High God not by any works of my own but because I accept this gift and believe it...because these things are true, I work **because of** what I believe, I work **because of** the gift of righteousness, I do the same works for the same reasons, that Jesus did in the Father...

I can't beat the law, I can't escape its judgment, **but thanks be to God I don't have to because my Lord and Savior did!**

Any residue of sin consciousness, of guilt or shame, any sense of condemnation, of missing it, lacking it, not measuring up, not meeting the standards, I gladly repent from accepting the free gift of right standing in Jesus now and for all time! I gladly turn not on my own heart but against these things not allowing them to have dominion over me anymore! I rebuke accusations, threats, unworthiness, insecurities, and feelings of failure from dominating my conscience anymore!

I will not accept less than what Jesus has done for me nor allow the enemy to deceive me into living to these things any more...I have Jesus' life in me, I have his wisdom, His righteousness, His sanctification, and His redemption in Me...that is how the Father in heaven sees me as one who is in His son— saved; therefore I will work the works of faith in obedience **to see myself the way He does**. Amen.

Remember this passage?

Matthew 11: 8 “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.”

This is only true when we realize that we are being beaten down by the law of condemnation and guilt. Now, that we belong to Christ we are no longer under its judgment and are free to rest in the grace and truth found in our salvation.