

# The Battle of Law and Grace

(Caravan to Midnight #6)

Fred R. Coulter—September 3, 2024

**Moderator:** Tonight we welcome back Pastor Fred Coulter to discuss the battle of Law **vs** Grace.

Tonight on the program we welcome back Pastor Fred Coulter. Yes indeed, if you're new to the program, just by way of a little preliminary sketch: Pastor Fred Coulter has worked as a minister, author and publisher to produce:

- 15 books
- an abundance of booklets and papers
- thousands of audio and video sermons
- hundreds of half hour video segments for Church at Home {[churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org)} covering basic Bible topics and questions
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You can obtain *A Faithful Version* of the Bible that hasn't been freelance with... I'm a little conflicted over the, 'here's the groovy modern version and here's the parlance of the old school version.' We have the *King James*, the *New King James*, all these different versions.

This is **A Faithful Version**. You can get it at [afaithfulversion.org](http://afaithfulversion.org)

What he's going to be talking to us about, to be a little bit more accurate, is first of all, one of the central questions for many Christians is whether Jesus abolished the Law.

Well, Jesus says, 'No, I came to fulfill it.' But I think we're going to start off this conversation with Pastor Fred Coulter, if he can explain to us how the New Testament addresses us, using specific Scriptures to compare. And by the way, go ahead. You know exactly where it is. Grab your Bible and follow along. I think you're going to find this very enriching.

Welcome back. Pastor Coulter, it's good to have you here.

**FRED:** Thank you, John; appreciate it. Very happy to be here. You sound like you're in good form.

**Moderator:** Well, I ought to be, but every once in a while I catch myself slipping a little bit. It didn't, it really didn't hurt anything. A bunch of people wanted some time off, because they work such outrageous hours at the stations and so forth. It's like we're going to go ahead and take the Labor Day weekend off. I may not observe Labor Day, but it's just a national day of observance. But yeah, I think it served everybody pretty well. Just be able to get

away from the grindstone for just a little while and then jump right back into it on Tuesday.

**FRED:** Well, you have a schedule going to midnight. So, hey, you're right in there.

**Moderator:** Yep! Midnight Eastern, that's for sure. Well, what about that? Now, when we talk, is there any way to just encapsulate the Law? Because tonight's episode is The Battle of Law **vs** Grace.

So, when we talk about *the Law*, what is meant by **The Law**, what is *The Law* in a nutshell that Jesus came to fulfill?

**FRED:** Let's expand that out. Everything there is operates by law. *Everything!*

- every part of every plant
- every part of every tree
- every part of every animal
- every part of every human being

God made us in such a way that there are things that are right and good for us to do and we need to do, but He's given us free moral agency to choose whether we will do what is good or not. So, law covers a lot.

Now, there can be specific laws, which we'll get to here in just a little bit, and we will see in the next segment, difficult Scriptures that look like Paul did away with the Law, but it didn't. And the reason being is that too many people do not understand about the problems of the New Testament with the 'religion' of Judaism.

So, we'll touch that, but the first place to begin and to understand is this: **God is Lawgiver!**

John 1:1: "In *the* beginning was the Word... [the One Who became Christ] ...and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in *the* beginning with God. All things..." (vs 1-3).

What I suggest to people do when they have their Bible, when you come to **ALL** circle it, when you come to **IE** circle it, because that means **there's a condition!**

Verse 3: "All things came into being through Him, and not even one *thing* that was created came into being without Him. In Him was life, and the Life was the Light of men" (vs 3-4). So, *every human being has:*

- life
- consciousness
- understanding
- choice

- everything about them, including everything around them

Verse 14: “And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us... [temporarily dwelt among us] ...and we ourselves beheld His glory, *the* glory as of *the* only begotten with *the* Father), full of Grace and Truth.”

Jesus was God manifested in the flesh. How did that happen? Well, we find in:

Philippians 2:7: “But emptied Himself... [He divested Himself of His glory, because He was there as God] ...and was made in the likeness of men, and took the form of a servant.”

Well, He was born like any other human being because when He reduced Himself to the small pinprick of life necessary for God the Father to impregnate Mary, so that He could be born of the virgin Mary. Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and also the Son of man.

He had human nature, which He received from Mary, His mother, because if He didn't have human nature, He would not be able to be tempted.

When we look at His life, and I might mention that the things that I'm offering this time, one of them will be *A Harmony of the Gospels*. I'll explain that a little bit later.

What did Jesus say about the Word of God, which then includes ***ALL of His Law***? When He was 30, He came to John the Baptist, who was the messenger before Him, and was baptized by Him and received the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 4:1: “Then Jesus was led up into the wilderness by the Spirit in order to be tempted by the devil.”

That's necessary because all human beings are tempted by the devil. The way we are living in the end-time, Satan the devil is deceiving the whole world. There are temptations everywhere, ***and temptations lead to Law-breaking, which is sin!***

Satan approached Jesus at the very weakest possible as a human being.

Verse 2: “And when He had fasted *for* forty days and forty nights, afterwards He was famished. And when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘***IF*** You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread’” (vs 2-3).

Well, Jesus could do that, but the devil probably said:

Hey, look, you're hungry. Look, You're weak. You haven't had anything to eat or drink for forty days and forty nights. You can barely stand. Think how good it would be to have just have a bite of bread.

So what did Jesus answer? *This is a major key in everything in the New Testament and everything in the Old Testament.*

Verse 4: “But He answered *and* said, ‘**It is written...**’”

That's interesting because God has what He has instructed us as human beings ***to be written down***, so there is no doubt as to what God wants. When you read the Bible, ***it's almost like God talking to you as an individual!***

Verse 4: “But He answered *and* said, ‘It is written, “**Man shall not live by bread alone...** [that is *food!* Man means *every man, woman, young or old, child or aging*] ...**but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.**”’”

Who spoke the Ten Commandments? *The One Who became Jesus Christ!* So, He knows what the Law is. In the beginning with Adam and Eve, He's the One Who gave them the Law! Then when they sinned, they were expelled from the Garden of Eden.

*Jesus came so that these things can be undone **through repentance and baptism!***

Matthew 5—here we find something really profound and interesting. This has to do with: **Did Jesus abolish the Law?** They hear that a lot of times when they go to church or that Jesus ended the Law. We'll cover that a little later.

Matt. 5:17: “**Do not think...** [don't let it enter into your mind] ...**that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill.**” *Fulfill means to complete!*

Let me ask you a question: If you build a house and you finish it and it's all ready, do you then walk away from it or do you live in it? Well, you live in it!

Now, notice the next verse. This is important because it tells us a lot and how important it is. He didn't come “...**to abolish the Law or the Prophets, but to fulfill.**” *That is to complete!*

The prophecy in Isaiah 42:21: “...**He will magnify the Law and make it glorious.**”

How did He magnify it? By making it the *spiritual* application.

Matthew 5:18. “For truly I say to you, **until the heaven and the earth shall pass away...**”

- Are they still here?
- We're on it, right?
- The whole world, with nearly 8-billion people, the heavens are there, aren't they?

Yes, with all the glorious stars and everything. ***So they haven't passed away!***

“...one jot or one tittle **shall in no way pass from the Law...**” (v 18).

So that means when you put it together, **everything that God has said is still in force, and that's called the Law!**

“...**until everything has been fulfilled**” (v 18).

Well, the only time that will be fulfilled is when you come to Rev. 21 & 22 with the New Heavens and the New Earth. But then again, **every ending has a new beginning!**

Everyone who has a pastor who says that Jesus abolished the law, use these verses, go to him, show it to him.

Verse 19: “Therefore, **whoever shall break one of these least commandments...**”

Now, breaking the law is sin! *Sin is the transgression of the law*—or as it is in the Faithful Version:

1-John 3:4: “Everyone who practices sin is also practicing lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.”

But that expands out because the actual Greek means *anyone who practices lawlessness*—meaning that you live contrary to the Laws of God—**is sinning!** We will see about grace a little later.

Verse 19: “Therefore, whoever shall break one of these least commandments, **and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven...**”

Doesn't even say they'll be there. But notice the contrast:

“...but whoever **shall practice and teach them, this one shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven**” (v 19).

That's very clear from our Creator Who made us, Who created all the genes and chromosomes and the whole process of procreation for the human race to reproduce itself, which is another whole story indeed. We have that in the book, *Why Were You Born?*

Now notice what he says here, and here's a key that most people don't understand, and we'll expand upon that here in a little bit.

Verse 20: “For I say to you, unless your righteousness... [doing right] ...shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees... [their traditions] ...there is no way *that* you shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.” *Does that not bind the Law?*

**Moderator:** Sounds like it!

**FRED:** *Yeah!* Now let's read the next verse and see how Jesus completed the Law of murder.

Verse 21: “You have heard that it was said to those *in ancient times*, ‘You shall not commit murder; but whoever commits murder shall be

subject to judgment.’ **But I say to you...**” (vs 21-22).

Now Jesus—God manifested in the flesh, the Lawgiver—is telling us the **spiritual amplification of the Law**, which means that in the New Testament **with the spiritual application of the Law**, this is binding upon us today.

Verse 22: “**But I say to you**, everyone who is angry with his brother without cause... [doesn't say you can't have anger, with cause; but without a cause]: ...shall be subject to judgment. Now, *you have heard it said*, ‘Whoever shall say to his brother, “Raca,” shall be subject to *the judgment of the council.*’ **But I say to you**, whoever shall say, ‘You fool,’ shall be subject to the fire of Gehenna.” *That's a whole lot stronger!*

Now let's look at this thing concerning the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, because most of those in Protestantism and Catholicism have never heard of the *Code of Jewish Law*. They do not know that **the Jews**, even though they have the framework of the Commandments, **do not keep the Laws of God the way that they should!** But they keep **their traditions!** Now here's what Jesus said.

The Pharisees—and it says that unless your righteousness exceeds that of the Pharisees—His disciples came and they were eating and they hadn't washed their hands before eating. So:

Mark 7:5: “For this reason, the Pharisees and the scribes questioned Him, *saying*, ‘Why don't Your disciples walk according to the tradition of the elders... [the traditions of the Jews, the added laws, which were man-made laws, not God's Laws] ...but eat bread with unwashed hands?’”

Verse 6: “And He answered *and* said to them, ‘Well did Isaiah prophesy concerning you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors Me with their lips, but their hearts are far away from Me.”’”

Notice what happens **when you have something contrary to the Word of God that you practice!** That means **IF** you are breaking any one of the Ten Commandments, **THEN** you fall into this category: **you think you can break those or it's done away, and you think you can worship God!**

Verse 7: “**But in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men.**”

Now keep that in mind! That's a most important key to understand all of these difficult Scriptures.

Verse 8: “**For leaving the Commandment of God...**”

Which God said in the person of Christ, God manifested in a flesh, 'Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but not one jot or one tittle shall.'

Verse 8: "For leaving the commandment of God... [which they did with their traditions] ...you hold fast the tradition of men, *such as* the washing of pots and cups; and you practice many other things like *this*."

**Special #3:** [<https://www.cbcg.org/caravan.html>]

- A Harmony of the Gospels—The Life of Jesus Christ
- Judaism—Revelation of Moses or Religion of Men
- Scripturalism *vs* Judaism
- Grace of God in the Bible

When the Jews speak about the law of God in the Old Testament, which they call Torah, *they are including all of their traditions!* That's the thing that most people don't understand. Now what happens here?

Verse 9: "Then He said to them, 'Full well do you reject the commandment of God, so that you may observe your *own* tradition.'" Isn't that what they do?

Go to our website for Church at Home {[churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org)} and look up the segments that I did:

***Judaism Rejects the Laws of God***  
{<https://www.churchathome.org/video/judaism-video-series.html>}

How? *By smothering them with **their** traditions!*

Mark 2—let's look at this. There was a controversy about the Sabbath, **and that's the one law that everyone in the world bows down to the edict of Rome! Sunday-worship is not in the Bible—period!**

Mark 2:27: "And He said to them, 'The Sabbath was made for man... [that's why He created it; so we could keep it and have contact with God] ...and not man for the Sabbath; therefore, **the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath**'" (vs 27-28).

Now, it's interesting in the Greek, this is in the genitive case in the Greek, and it means that **Jesus Christ is Owner of the Sabbath Day!** That's why:

- He is Lord
- He made it
- He created it
- He kept it
- He preached it

**and the traditions of men were laid over it to make it void, because they want to keep their own**

**traditions rather than follow what God says in the Bible!**

**Moderator:** Excellent! Hang on right there, Pastor Fred Coulter. Wow, this is really quite something, don't you find? Remember those sites:

- [churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org)
- [truthofgod.org](http://truthofgod.org)
- [afaithfulversion.org](http://afaithfulversion.org)

(break)

Why did you say, take us where you want to go, because you're covering all of these things basically, but so when it comes to:

- physical law
- moral law
- sacrificial law

The moral law we take from the written Law, the written Law or the physical Law was the Ten Commandments; is that correct?

**FRED:** Well, that's also the moral Law.

**Moderator:** Right!

**FRED:** Ten Commandments, yes!

Now, the sacrificial laws have been replaced with a greater sacrifice, **which is Christ**, and with a greater contact with God, **which is the Holy Spirit!** So, we'll get into that here in just a little bit.

Here is a famous place that they love to go to, and it's a complete misunderstanding of what is said.

Galatians 3:13: "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree')"

Protestants traditionally read this: **the Law is a curse**, but that is not what it says.

When you look at the Laws, you find back there in Deuteronomy, *blessings and cursings*.

- blessings come from obeying
- cursings come from sin

So, Jesus is not redeeming us from the Law, which is sin. No, He is redeeming us **from the curse of the Law because of sin!** That's a very important thing to understand.

Then they come to another one, and here is where everything becomes pretty much unglued in many different ways.

Rom. 10—if you read it in the *King James*, now that's very interesting because it is mistranslated and misinterpreted and misunderstood.

Romans 10:4 (KJV): “For Christ is the end of the law, for righteousness to everyone that believes.”

**Now, that is a complete misunderstanding of what Paul is writing about!** He wrote this in the Greek language and remember in the Bible, the New Testament is not a controversy between the Catholics and Protestants, though there’s plenty of controversy there. But the controversy, as we read, is about *the traditions* of the Jews, because they thought that ***their traditions*** would be the means of keeping people justified.

Now, there are *two kinds of justification by Law*:

1. by the sacrifices, which have been replaced with the sacrifice of Christ
2. the way that the Jews have done it, especially since the temple has been destroyed

Let’s read it right here, because when you come to Rom. 10:4, you have got to read and understand what it is being said in Rom. 9, because chapter 9 tells us what it is. It’s bared out in the Greek because...

Now this gets a little detailed, but when there is not a definite article in the Greek, referring to law, when it says ***works of law*** that means ***the works of Judaism*** or ***the works of the ritual*** at the temple.

To be put in justification with God means ***put in right standing with God!***

**Moderator:** I’ll tell you what, let’s get through the break Can you hold your place right there? This will take about a minute altogether. All right. We’ll be back quick.

Carrying on to the hour with Pastor Fred Coulter. I want to just say his websites again:

- [truthofGod.org](http://truthofGod.org)
- [churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org)
- [afaithfulversion.org](http://afaithfulversion.org)

So that wasn’t too long. If you want to pick up right where you left off, that’d be just fine.

**FRED:** Now then, let’s come here back to Rom. 9, so we get an understanding of what it is. Now reading in the *King James*, it says that ‘Christ is the end of the Law.’ So, they read that and say, ‘See, the Law is done away.’

- Is that talking about the Law of God?
- or**
- Is that talking about something else?

Remember the conflict between the Laws of God and Judaism. ***They’re the laws of their traditions!*** So, this is what we’re talking about *the traditions of the Jews!* So let’s see what Paul has written here in:

Romans 9:31 (FV): “But Israel, although they followed after ***a law*** of righteousness...”

Notice, ***a law***, not ***the Law***, because ***the Law of Righteousness is the Law of God!***

They followed after ***a law***, as Jesus said, ***‘You reject the Truth of God and the Commandments of God, to keep your own traditions!’***

***“...did not attain to a law of righteousness. Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but by works of law...”*** (vs 31-32).

Now, the *King James* says, ‘the works of the law,’ ***which is a complete wrong translation, which misleads everyone!***

Now, let me clear up something about ***law and faith.***

Rev. 14:12—this is at the end-time. They’re talking about the time just before the first resurrection when Christ returns.

Revelation 14:12<sub>[transcriber’s correction]</sub>: “Here is *the* patience of the saints... [all of those who have the Spirit of God and love God and keep His Commandments] ***...here are the ones who keep the Commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.***” *That’s as plain as it can be!*

Romans 9:32: “...Because *they did not seek it by faith...*”

It takes faith to keep the Laws of God. They were keeping ***their own laws*** in place of it.

“...but by works of law... [not the works of the Laws of God, ***but the works of law of Jewish tradition***] ...for they stumbled at the Stone of Stumbling... [which is Christ] ...exactly as it is written: ‘Behold, I place in Sion a Stone of Stumbling and a Rock of offense, but everyone who believes in Him shall not be ashamed’” (vs 32-33).

Romans 10:1: “Brethren, the earnest desire of my heart and my supplication to God for Israel is for salvation. For I testify of them that ***they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge***” (vs 1-2).

*They weren’t doing it according to the knowledge of God!* They were doing it ***according to the knowledge of their manmade traditional laws!***

Verse 3: “For they, ***being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God...***”

When you have all the human tradition, you can see that with:

- the Jews
- the Catholics
- the Protestants
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Hinduism

**All of those are traditions of men!**

“...and seeking to **establish their own righteousness**, have not submitted to the righteousness of God” (v 3).

What did we see back there in Matt. 5? **That unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, there’s no way you’re going to enter into the Kingdom of God!**

“...their own righteousness, **have not submitted to the righteousness of God**” (v 3).  
*What is the righteousness of God?*

Psalm 119:172: “...all Your Commandments are righteousness.”

If they weren’t seeking or submitting to the righteousness of God, that means **they were doing their own law, their own traditions**

- which can never bring them to God
- which can never bring them to understanding
- which can never bring them to salvation

Now then, here is the correct translation of:

Romans 10:4: “For Christ is the end of works of law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

The sacrifice of Christ took care of all of the rituals of sacrifices. **The sacrifice of Christ and the Commandments of God together**—as we read in Rev.14:12—**brings the righteousness of God!**

Now, let’s look at one other verse here, which is very interesting, which flies in the face of a lot of their teaching:

Rom. 2:13 talks about *justification*. What is justification? **Right standing with God through the forgiveness of your sin, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ!** The only way that you’re justified is through the sacrifice and shed blood of Jesus Christ. However, there’s another requirement.

Romans 2:12: “For as many as have sinned... [breaking the Law] ...without law shall also perish without law.” *They’re still sinning even though they don’t know it!*

“...and as many as have sinned within the Law shall be judged by the Law.... [here’s the key]: **...Because the hearers of the Law are not just before God, but the doers of the Law shall be justified**” (vs 12-13).

When we find ourselves living in sin, we need to repent and be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit of God. And we have to first with the repentance **start keeping the Commandments of God.**

Now then, that shows that you’re willing to do what God wants, and you dedicate your life to that.

Matt. 22 is the important one that we want to cover. What is Law based on? Everyone talks about the love of God, the grace of God, but ‘we don’t need Law.’

Matthew 22:35: “And one of them, a doctor of the Law, questioned *Him*, tempting *Him*, and saying, ‘Master, which commandment is the great commandment in the Law?’ And Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind’” (vs 35-37).

Now, that’s the complete opposite of doing away with God’s Law. **You’re to love God!**

Verse 38: “This is the first and greatest commandment; and the second one is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’” (vs 38-39).

That’s why we have the 10 Commandments:

- First 4: how to love God
- Last 6: how to love your neighbor and your family

Now notice what Jesus says in v 40, because this is most important to understand:

Verse 40: **“On these two Commandments...”**

The two basic, core Commandments founded on *love!* You cannot have true love unless you keep the Laws of God.

Verse 40: **“On these two Commandments hang ALL the Law and the Prophets.”**

Everything there is based on the love of God. Even the things where there is all of the blood, guts, and gores because of sin and war and all of that sort of thing; that’s all because they break the commandments right here.

Think what it would be in a society where everyone would:

- love God with all their heart, mind, soul and being
- keep the Commandments of God
- love their neighbor as themselves

*What a beautiful society that would be!*

We wouldn’t have anything like this idiot governor in Colorado saying, ‘All this lawlessness is a figment of your imagination.’ **NO!**

- it is because of the sins of the people
- it’s because of the sins of the government
- it’s because people need to come back to God

*That’s the whole thing of it!*

I'll just say this: I got a phone call from a man who wanted to know, could he use the quotes out of *The Holy Bible In Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*? Because of all the translations for the New Testament that he has found, *The Holy Bible In Its Original Order*, is the best and most correct translation of all.

I said 'yes, you can use as many as you want to, just give notation of where you got them, that's all.'

This is why it's important **that we give** all of these things to your listeners. **We don't charge for them, we don't send out letters, we don't request seed money!** We send it to you because true Christians have given their tithes and offerings to make it possible to give it **without cost**, so we will do it.

**Moderator:** That's fantastic. It really, really is. Ladies and gentlemen, you're listening to a man whose ministry now spans 60 years. And the mission is to preserve the Truth of God for the next generation of faithful Christians.

As forces of godless evil subtly work behind the scenes—in religion, government, education, and economics—this is most needed. And this Faithful Version:

- [afaithfulversion.org](http://afaithfulversion.org)
- [churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org)
- [truthofgod.org](http://truthofgod.org)

We'll be back the best we can. It's important to understand these things, really, maybe more now than in other times of our lives.

Of course, it would have been important, it would have been nice to have this teaching all along, because there was a lot of freelancing with theology and philosophy and the crossover and so forth, and a lot of people wound up being deceived about what's really going on.

But people can say what they want, and they do. But the fact of the matter is, it's all right there. The thing about the Truth is out there. Now, the Truth is right here in front of us. It has been the whole time.

Sometimes **it hides in plain sight**, waiting for us to wise up to the point where we say, 'Wait a minute, it's right there. I walked past it. I've seen it. It's been on my desk.' Whatever little analogy you want to make.

But it's like what we said a long time ago by somebody who I cannot name at this moment, but it's **a dabbling in philosophy inclines a person to atheism!**

However, **a depth in philosophy does the opposite** and inclines a person to God. As we carry on now with Pastor Fred Coulter.

Pastor, before our time gets away from us, I understand you had some specials you wanted everybody to know about. I understand **ALL of them are free**, but I'll let you tell everybody what you have for them.

**FRED:** That's very good. Thank you, John. Appreciate that. And that's true. Paul writes about philosophy, which is Greek philosophy. He says, **'Don't let anyone spoil you with philosophy, taking you away from Christ!'** So, that agrees with what you said exactly there.

**Caravan Special #3:**  
{<https://www.cbcbg.org/caravan.html>}

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That is a full-fledged book of over 300 pages, which takes Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and puts them in a chronological parallel manner with pictures and commentaries all the way through. Very vital. You will learn things that you have never understood. You will see things that are really just almost beyond your being able to figure it out.

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That takes all the difficult Scriptures that Paul wrote and lays them out step-by-step **so you can see the Truth!**

It all gets back to where we finished, that **you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your strength and your neighbor as yourself; on these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets!**

Then we're warned in the book of Isaiah, which will finish off the second half here. Remember that Jesus said that the Law and the

Prophets will not be done away as long as there's heaven and earth. **So listen up!**

Isaiah 8:20: "To the Law and to the Testimony!... [Old Testament and New Testament] ...If they do not speak according to this Word, it is because *there is no Light in them.*"

That is, **they have no understanding from God**, and that's what we see. Everything has been sold down the drain because of commercialism, satanism and because of doing away with the Commandments of God.

John 3:34: "For He **Whom God has sent...**" *John is referring to Christ, but this applies to any minister. You check it with the Bible.*

"...has sent speaks the words of God; and God gives not the Spirit by measure *unto Him*" (v 34). **So, it has to be to the Word of God!**

Now, let's look at, we're going to focus on **how we love God!**

Because everyone says that *we need the love of God, we need the grace of God*, and all of that. We'll have to save grace for another time, that's a more complicated subject.

1-John 5:2: "By this standard **we know that we love the children of God...**"

That's the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment: Love your neighbor as yourself.

"...**when we love God and keep His Commandments. For this is the love of God: that we keep His Commandments; and His Commandments are not burdensome**" (vs 2-3). *That's an amazing thing!*

1-John 2:4 this tells us what we need to look to. This is how we judge whatever is said from the Bible.

Now, the way we conduct our services is we all have a Bible. We all open it up. When I go through and quote the Scriptures, everybody's looking it up. I can tell you this, if I don't speak it correctly, there will be those out there who will let me know.

Now then, here's one right here, because this is interesting, indeed.

1-John 2:3: "And by this *standard* we know that we know Him..."

A lot of people say, 'Know the Lord. Do you know the Lord, brother? Do you know the Lord, sister? Hooray! Hallelujah!

"...**IF we keep His Commandments.** The one who says, 'I know Him' and does not keep His Commandments" (vs 3-4).

Anyone who comes along and says:

- we'll keep Sunday
- we'll keep this other day

- ✓ we won't keep the Sabbath
- ✓ we won't keep the Holy Days of God
- ✓ we don't need to do it
- ✓ it's all done away

**When Jesus said it hasn't been done away!**

Verse 4: "The one who says, 'I know Him' and **does not keep** His Commandments, **is a liar...**"

We find more liars in the pulpit than we do those who are really truthful and honest. Now, notice when that happens:

"...**and the Truth is not in him.** On the other hand, *IF* anyone is keeping His Word, truly **in this one the love of God is being perfected...**" (vs 4-5).

See, and that's what Jesus said where we began back in Matt. 5. He came:

- to complete
- to finish
- to fulfill
- to perfect

**the love of God!**

"...By this *means* we know that we are in Him" (v 5).

Verse 6—*this is profound*: "Anyone who claims to dwell in Him **is obligating himself also to walk...**

When it says to walk, that means *to live as a way of life!*

"...**to walk even as He Himself walked**" (v 6).

That's quite a thing for us to understand! Now then, let's look a little bit more about the love of God. Let's see what Jesus said on the Passover night just before He went out and was arrested to be hauled off to be tried and then crucified.

John 14—this is quite a chapter, indeed! Quite a chapter. This is really something! The Apostle John, whom Jesus loved, wrote this.

Now what I want us to do is focus in on the emphasis of what he wrote here, because this is basic. There are a lot of people who profess that they love the Lord, but **IF they don't keep** His Commandments, **their love is not the true love of God!**

Now Jesus Himself said to His apostle [John] just before He was arrested to be crucified:

Who was He where we started? *The Lord God of the Old Testament Who gave the Ten Commandments!*

John 15: **IF you love Me, keep the commandments—namely, My commandments.**"

Now, then that's all covered in the book, *A Harmony of the Gospels.*



Verse 16: “And I will ask the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that it may be with you throughout the age: **Even the Spirit of the Truth...**” (vs 16-17).

Now that’s the thing that baptism accomplishes, because you have to have the Holy Spirit:

- which is the Spirit of Truth
- which comes from the God of Truth

*Who gives us the Truth of the Word of God*

- which tells us how we’re going to live
- which tells us what God is going to do
- which tells us when Christ is coming

“...**which the world cannot receive...**” (v 17).

John 14:21—*these are the words of Jesus Himself*: Anyone who says:

- I know Jesus
- I love Jesus
- Jesus is my Savior

***but are not doing what He says!***

John 14:21: “**The one who has My commandments...**”

That begins with the loving God with all your heart, your neighbor as yourself, the Ten Commandments, the Commandments of God, as amplified by Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

Now then, we have a special relationship with God, which is called grace. That is our standing with Him, that we can have direct contact with God the Father and heaven above through prayer and study of the Bible. We don’t have to have any sacrifices, because the Temple of God and heaven above where God is, is where we go.

Verse 21: “The one who has My commandments and is keeping them... [present tense, participle, keeping them] ...that is the one who loves Me.” *Now, just reverse it:*

- **IF** you don’t keep His Commandments, **you don’t love Him!**
- **IF** you reject His Commandments, **you reject Him!**

Just like Jesus said of the Pharisees with their traditions, ***they reject the commandments of God to keep their own traditions!***

Notice what he says here. This is important. This is a great promise.

“...and the one who loves Me **shall be loved by My Father...**” (v 21)—***the great God of the universe***; now think about that.

It doesn’t matter who you are, where you are. It doesn’t matter whether you are important or whether you are not important. It doesn’t matter whether you’re male or female, young or old.

***The Father Himself will love you!*** That is powerful stuff. This is for every person that there is. But we’ve got to come to God, repent of our sin, and come to know Him through keeping His Commandments and loving God.

“...the one who loves Me, and the one who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and **I will love him and will manifest Myself to him**” (v 21).

How does God manifest Himself to people on the earth? *He gives them:*

- the desire to know what God is doing
- the desire to find out about Him
- the desire to repent of their sins
- the desire to ask God to help them
- ✓ straighten out their life
- ✓ solve their problems and the difficulties that they are up against

Many people have lived lives which have been very horrendous, but upon repentance and baptism, that can be forgiven. But you must have the understanding you need to keep His Commandments and receive God’s Spirit.

I can tell you how that was with me when I first started. I had problems in my life, and I was out walking one night in Burlingame, California, and I looked up into the sky, and there was a little opening in the fog, and my life was so messed up. The only thing I could say is, ‘*O God, help me! I don’t know what to do.*’ That was the start, and God answered that prayer. That was the beginning as to why I’m here today over 60 years ago.

Verse 22: “Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, ‘Lord, what has happened that You are about to manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?’”

- He does it with His Spirit
- He does it with His Word

Verse 23: “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘**IF...** [conditional] ...**anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word...**” *That means everything that Jesus taught!*

“...and **My Father will love him...**” (v 23). Now, this becomes the greatest and most important thing that anyone can receive, that anyone can have. It outdoes any position, any high thing that men look to.

“...and **We** will come to him and make **Our** abode with him” (v 23).

That means through the Spirit of God ***Christ unites the spirit of man that we have with the begetting of God’s Spirit, and we begin to develop the mind of Christ!***

We are begotten by the Father so that ***at the resurrection we will become the sons and daughters of God!*** That’s an amazing thing. This is

the true teachings of God on it, right from the Word of God.

Verse 24: “The one who does not love Me does not keep My words...” **Now, let that sink in!**

Whatever the Word of God you reject, *you’re not loving Christ! You’re not loving the Father!*

Now, here’s the importance of it, and this is why the Bible is so important:

“...and the Word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s, **Who sent Me**” (v 24).

The very words from the greatest Being, **God the Father in heaven above**, will give you of His Spirit! **There can be nothing greater than you can receive!**

- this is why it’s so important that you follow the Word of God
- this is why we give the things that we do

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**Moderator:** Yeah. Yes, absolutely. Our time has really gone by quickly tonight.

**FRED:** Yeah, it has. That’s great culture.

**Moderator:** Just amazing. But what could you say in about a minute, for anybody who’s on the fence. They want to believe, but Christianity has been mocked!

- they see it mocked on TV
- they hear it mocked out in
- they hear the scandals of some of these heads of the various Protestant churches and so forth

*we’ll just leave Pope Francis out of it for now.*

What can you say to them, to make them believe it for a minute just so they’ll see it instead of the other way around?

**FRED:** What you need to do, you need to go to our websites: **churchathome.org** and **truthofgod.org**. There you will have every message based strictly on the Bible, and we have all kinds of things. We have hundreds of publications. We have so many things that it’s incredible.

We’re very happy to be able to help you with it. And if anyone has anything that they need to discuss personally, we have various elders in different places that can help you out with that.

**Moderator:** Thank you very much for your ministry. It is so valuable to all of us, particularly at this time in our history. God bless you and speed you on your mission, and I very much look forward to our next conversation.

**FRED:** Thanks a lot, John!

**Moderator:** You’re most welcome, Pastor Fred Coulter! everybody. God bless you!

Scriptural References:

- 1) John 1:1-4, 14
- 2) Philippians 2:7

- 3) Matthew 4:1-4
- 4) Matthew 5:17
- 5) Isaiah 42:21
- 6) Matthew 5:18-19
- 7) 1-John 3:4
- 8) Matthew 5:19-22
- 9) Mark 7:5-9
- 10) Mark 2:27-28
- 11) Galatians 3:13
- 12) Romans 10:14
- 13) Romans 9:31-32
- 14) Revelation 14:12
- 15) Romans 9:32-33
- 16) Romans 10:1-3
- 17) Psalm 119:172
- 18) Romans 10:4
- 19) Romans 2:12
- 20) Matthew 22:35-40
- 21) Isaiah 8:20
- 22) John 3:34
- 23) 1-John 5:2-3
- 24) 1 John 2:3-6
- 25) John 14:15-17, 21-24

FRC:bo/po  
Transcribed: 2/7/25

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Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 21;22
- Romans 2:13

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