

Law and Grace: An Overview
Jim McGowan, Th.D.
Sugar Land Bible Church
06-09-2019



For the Law was given through Moses...



...but grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ - John 1:17

Special thanks to Dr. Vern Peterman for access to his insights and resources.

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Session 18b Outline

- I. Review
 - A. Purpose, Aim, and Objective
 - B. Session 18a
- II. Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew Part 3
 - A. Comparisons (cont'd)
 - B. Contrasts
- III. Concluding Observations

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Law and Grace

OUR PURPOSE, AIM AND OBJECTIVE



...is to Compare and Contrast **Law** and **Grace** so as to properly understand these two important themes and *how they are related to the life of the New Testament Believer.*

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Jim McGowan, MTS, Th.D.
Law & Grace Session 18
6/9/2019



C. I. SCOFIELD, D. D.

The Grace of God, The Fundamentals Vol. 3, Chapter VII, p. 98

We have, most of us, been reared and now live under the influence of **Galatianism**. Protestant theology, alas, is for the most part, thoroughly **Galatianized**, in that neither law nor grace are given their **distinct** and **separated** places, as in the counsels of God, but are mingled together in one incoherent system.

The law is no longer, as in the Divine intent, a ministration of death (2 Cor. 3:7), of cursing (Gal. 3:10), of conviction (Rom. 3:19), because we are taught that we must try to keep it, and that by Divine help we may.

Nor, on the other hand, does grace bring us blessed deliverance from the dominion of sin, for **we are kept under the law as a rule of life despite the plain declaration, "Sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace" (Rom. 6:14).** (emphasis mine)

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William R. Newell

Romans Verse-by-Verse (p. 274).

Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library.



It is because Reformed theology has kept us Gentiles under the Law,—if not as a means of righteousness, then as “a rule of life,” that all the trouble has arisen. **The Law is no more a rule of life than it is a means of righteousness. Walking in the Spirit has now taken the place of walking by ordinances. God has another principle under which He has put his saints: “Ye are not under law, but, under grace! (Rom. 6:14)”** (italics mine)

PDF Download Here: https://archive.org/details/Romans_Verse_By_Verse-NewellWR

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Matthew's Audience and Purposes



- To explain **to Jewish unbelievers** that Jesus was indeed the long-awaited Jewish Messiah.
- To explain **to Jewish believers** why the kingdom had been postponed despite the fact that the king had arrived.
- To explain **to Jewish believers** the interim program of God during the kingdom's absence.

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Matthew & the Kingdom




- Kingdom offered
- Kingdom rejected
- Kingdom postponed
- Kingdom ultimately accepted
- Interim program

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Matthew's Message


- **Jesus is the predicted Jewish king** who ushered in an interim program by building the sons of the kingdom into the church in between Israel's past rejection and future acceptance of her king



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How will we approach the Gospel of Matthew?



- We will approach the Gospel of Matthew so that we will arrive at the **one intended meaning** for each passage that God, through Matthew intended to convey.
- We continually ask the questions, *“What message did God inspire and what meaning did the apostle Matthew intend to convey?”*

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The Doctrine of Perspicuity


- The doctrine of perspicuity means that the central message of the Bible is clear and understandable and that **the Bible itself can be properly interpreted in a normal, literal sense.**
 - God has a message He wants to convey.
 - God is able to convey His message.
 - God is not capricious (given to impulsive and unpredictable character and action).

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Common Sense Method of interpretation

- **Literal-Grammatical-Historical interpretation** – This means giving to every word the same meaning it would have in normal usage, whether employed in writing, speaking, or thinking while taking into account grammatical and historical considerations.



Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.

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What God inspired and the author intended.

- God did not give us His words so that we can make it say whatever we want. He had something specific in mind. That's the meaning. That's the intent. And that is what we will be looking for.

"The teachings of the Bible are not inaccessible to the average person, as some have suggested. Nor is the Bible written as a puzzle, a book of secrets and riddles given in jumbled incommunicable form. The fact that the Bible is a book means that it is to be read and understood." (Italics mine)

Zuck, Roy B. (1991). *Basic Bible Interpretation: A Practical Guide to Discovering Biblical Truth* (p. 26). Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook.

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What God inspired and the author intended.



- To answer this question, we will look at elements of language, history and culture, not just because these are interesting, but so that we understand Matthew's intent.

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What God inspired and the author intended.

- It's all a matter of getting the **FULL** context!




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To Whom is Jesus talking?

- Jesus spoke almost entirely to **the people of Israel**, only **in the land of Israel**, who were all **under the entire Law of Moses**. (Matt. 10:5-6)
- Jesus made multiple references to the **Law**, **Moses**, the **altar** and the **temple** in **Jerusalem**. (Matt. 5:17-18; 23-24; 8:4; 21:12-13)



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So don't we TAKE EVERYTHING as if it directly applies to us?


- We must always recognize **who is being addressed** and interpret accordingly.



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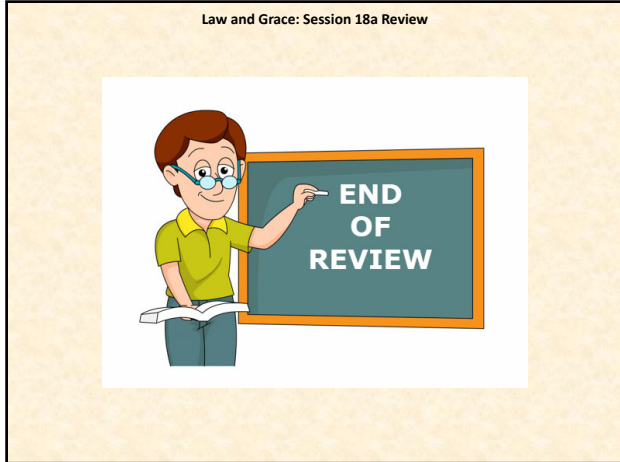
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So do we just IGNORE EVERYTHING that directly applies only to the Jews?



- **All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable...** 2 Tim. 3:16-17
- **For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction...** (cf. Rom. 15:4; 1 Cor. 10:11).

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WE COMPARE AND CONTRAST

- When we **compare** we ask, 'What about what is said in the gospels is **the same or similar** to what is addressed to the church, and why?' (Note: similar is not same!)
- When we **contrast** we ask, 'What about what is said in the gospels is **different from** what is written to us who are in the church, and why?'




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WE COMPARE AND CONTRAST

- When we take this Compare and Contrast approach we will find that the Word of God can be very clearly understood and is **consistent** throughout.




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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- There are a number of ways in which the content in the gospel of Matthew, has **application to believers in the church, the Body of Christ**, and that content is going to provide valuable lessons for us!.

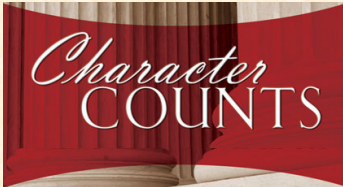


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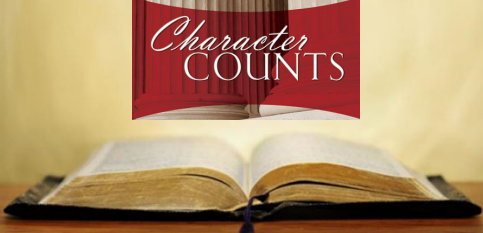
Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- The character of God is **always the same** and He does **not lie or capriciously change His mind** (Num. 23:19; 1 Sam. 15:29; Mal. 3:6; Titus 1:2; Heb. 1:10-12; 6:18; 13:8; Jam. 1:17).



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Numbers 23:19
“**God is not a man, that He should lie**, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; **Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?...**”




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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- **God is always the Creator and all of creation has a creature relationship with reference to Him** (Gen. 1:1; Matt. 19:4; Mark 13:19; Acts 14:15; 17:24,24; Col. 1:15).



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Isaiah 44:24
Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, “**I, the Lord, am the maker of all things, Stretching out the heavens by Myself And spreading out the earth all alone,...**”

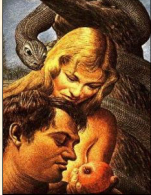


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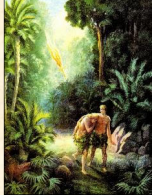
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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- **Due to the Fall, all those 'in Adam' have inherited a 'sin' nature** (Gen. 3:5; Isa. 53:6; Rom. 3:23; 5:14; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 42-49).




The
Sin
Nature



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Romans 5:17-18

“By one man’s offense (the First Adam) **death reigned** by one ... Therefore as by the offense of one (the First Adam), judgment came upon **all men** to **condemnation**”.



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Our Personal History in the First Adam

3 FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS

- 1) Our **POSITION** in sin (ADAM–**SOURCE**)
 - We are **dead unto God**, and **alive unto sin** (Ps. 51:5, Eph.2:1; 1Cor. 15:22).
- 2) Our **NATURE** of sin (ADAM–**NATURE**)
 - We are – natural, fleshly, and carnal, separated from God (Eph. 2:3; 1 Cor. 2:14; John 3:6).
- 3) Our **PERSONAL** sins (ADAM–**PRACTICE**)
 - We have grown up to be sinners by **CHOICE** and **PRACTICE**

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Comparison:
What is the same or similar


- **Salvation for all those “in Adam” is ALWAYS by faith in God’s provision** (Gen. 15:6; Hab. 2:4; Rom. 4:9, 22; Gal. 3:6; Jam. 2:23).

Genesis 15:6
Then he [Abraham] believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.



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Charles Ryrie

Ryrie, C. C. (1995). *Dispensationalism* (Rev. and expanded., p. 134-135). Chicago: Moody Publishers.

“The basis of salvation in every age is the death of Christ; the requirement for salvation in every age is faith; the object of faith in every age is God; the content of faith changes in the various dispensations...When Adam looked upon the coats of skins with which God had clothed him and his wife, he did not see what the believer today sees looking back on the cross of Calvary... One must see two aspects to this entire matter—the unchanging basis of salvation in the grace of Christ and the changing content of revelation, which affects the conscious object of faith.”

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
Renald Showers

Showers, R. E. (1990). *There really is a difference!: a comparison of covenant and dispensational theology* (p. 31). Bellmawr, NJ: The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc.

“...the different dispensations are different ways of God’s administering His rule over the world. They are not different ways of salvation. Throughout history God has employed several dispensations but only one way of salvation. Salvation has always been by the grace of God through faith in the Word of God, and God has based salvation on the work of Jesus Christ.

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William MacDonald

MacDonald, William (2001). *Here's the Difference* (p. 98).
West Port Colborne, ON: Gospel Folio Press

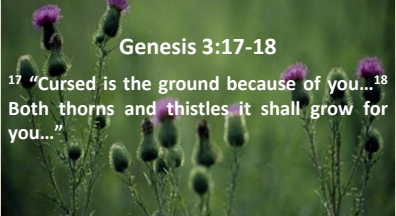
“While there are differences among the various ages, there is one thing that never changes, and that is the gospel. **Salvation always has been, is now, and always will be by faith in the Lord. And the basis of salvation for every age is the finished work of Christ on Calvary's cross. People in the Old Testament were saved by believing whatever revelation the Lord gave them...**We must guard against any idea that people in the Dispensation of Law were saved by keeping the Law”.

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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- **The earth that we walk is cursed until the recreation.**
(Gen. 3:17-19; 5:29; Rom. 8:18-25; Rev. 21:1; 22:3).



Genesis 3:17-18

¹⁷ “Cursed is the ground because of you...¹⁸
Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you...”

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2 Peter 3:10

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which **the heavens will pass away** with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and **the earth and its works will be burned up.**



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Revelation 21:1; 22:3

¹ Then I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea... ^{22:3} There will **no longer be any curse**; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him;

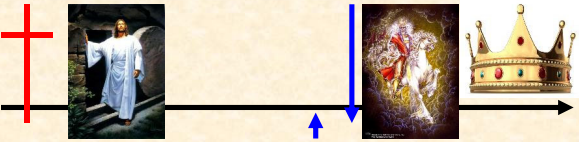


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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- Israel has a **unique relationship to the Millennial Kingdom** that Christ addresses in the Gospel of Matthew.
- However, we too have a place in, and a similar forward-looking time perspective, regarding **the coming Millennial Kingdom** (Acts 28:23, 31; 2 Thess. 1:5).




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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- **Like Israel, for us entrance into the kingdom is not on the basis of something earthly, but is spiritual** (Rom. 9:6; 11:26; 14:7; Jam. 2:5).



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Romans 9:6b

For **they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel**;

Who is a 'True' Jew?

```

            graph TD
            A[Abraham  
(Believes)] -- Promise --> B[Isaac  
(Believes)]
            B -- Seed --> C[Jacob (Israel)  
(Believes)]
            C -- Nation --> D[ ]
            subgraph Physical_Only [Physical Only]
            U[Unbelieving Jews (Rom. 9:6) "who say they are Jews but are not." (Rev. 2:9; 3:9)]
            end
            subgraph Physical_Spiritual [Physical + Spiritual]
            R["The believing Jewish Remnant (Rom. 9:27; 11:5) – the 'Israel of God' (Gal. 6:16)"]
            end
            D --- U
            D --- R
        
```

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Romans 11:26

“...and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, “THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB.”

Isaiah 59:20

“A Redeemer will come to Zion, And **to those who turn from transgression IN JACOB**,” declares the LORD.

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Who is a 'True' Jew?

```


            graph TD
            A[Abraham  
(Believes)] -- Promise --> B[Isaac  
(Believes)]
            B -- Seed --> C[Jacob (Israel)  
(Believes)]
            C -- Nation --> D[ ]
            subgraph Physical_Only [Physical Only]
            U[Unbelieving Jews (Rom. 9:6) "who say they are Jews but are not." (Rev. 2:9; 3:9)]
            end
            subgraph Physical_Spiritual [Physical + Spiritual]
            R["The believing Jewish Remnant (Rom. 9:27; 11:5) – the 'Israel of God' (Gal. 6:16)"]
            end
            D --- U
            D --- R
        
```

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Who is a 'True' Jew?

"In the age to come **Abraham** will sit at the gate of Gehenna [hell], and he **will not permit a circumcised Israelite to go down there.**" (Genesis Rabbah, "Vayera" 45:8)



<https://thetorah.com/abraham-circumcision/>


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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

Got Questions?

Can Jews go to Heaven without knowing Jesus?



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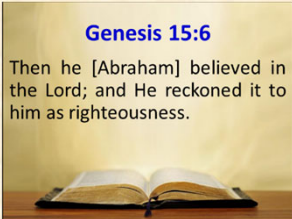
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- Salvation for all those "in Adam" is **ALWAYS** by faith in God's provision (Gen. 15:6; Hab. 2:4; Rom. 4:9, 22; Gal. 3:6; Jam. 2:23).

Genesis 15:6

Then he [Abraham] believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.



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Comparison:
What is the same or similar


- We are going to find that the ethics, morals, and even some of the spiritual principles conveyed in the Gospel of Matthew have much in common with what is revealed for Church Age believers in the New Testament epistles (Rom. 12:8-9; 1 Cor. 13:1-7).

The Mosaic Law "Given to Israel"	The Epistles "Christ's Message to the Church"
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Comparison:
What is 'My' Motivation?



The Mosaic Law "Given to Israel"	The Epistles "Christ's Message to the Church"
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Comparison:
What is 'My' Motivation?

The Mosaic Law "Given to Israel"	The Epistles "Christ's Message to the Church"
--	---



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Matthew 6:14-15
¹⁴ "For **if** you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But **if** you do not forgive others, **then** your Father will not forgive your transgressions."

Ephesians 4:32
"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

The Mosaic Law "Given to Israel"	The Epistles "Christ's Message to the Church"
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Exodus 20:15-16
¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness..."

Ephesians 4:25, 28
²⁵ "Therefore, laying aside falsehood... ²⁸ He who steals must steal no longer..."

The Mosaic Law "Given to Israel"	The Epistles "Christ's Message to the Church"
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Comparison:
What is the same or similar

- Neither the Gospel of Matthew nor the epistles to the Church encourage endless repetitions of the same prayer.



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Contrast:
What is different

- Jesus was born and presented Himself *in the land of Israel*, as the King *of Israel*, to the people *of Israel*, who were all under the Mosaic Law, given *to Israel* and to whom were promised earthly blessings, *in the land of Israel*, if they obeyed the Laws given *Israel!*



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Contrast:
What is different

Acts 2: the Day of Pentecost



- The rulers and leaders of Israel, with very few exceptions, rejected Jesus as their king, so, God postponed the Kingdom and temporarily shifted the focus from national Israel, to the Church, which under Grace partakes of all spiritual blessings *in the heavenly places.*

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Contrast:
The Gospel of the Kingdom in the Gospels & Acts

- In the Gospels, Jesus preached the **POTENTIAL, IMMINENT, COMING** of the Kingdom to national Israel, and...


<p>Matthew 4:23</p> <p>Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom...</p> 	<p>Matthew 9:35</p> <p>Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom...</p> 
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Contrast:
The Gospel of the Kingdom in the Gospels & Acts



- ...it is true that the Coming Kingdom continued to be presented through the end of the book of Acts...*however*, **NOT AS** a **potential, imminent, national, reality**, but **AS A FUTURE, CERTAIN, EXPECTATION** to individual Jews (and Gentiles, cf. Acts 28:23; 30-31)

	
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Acts 28:23; 30-31

"...[Paul] was explaining to them [the Roman Jews] by solemnly **testifying** about **the kingdom of God AND trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets**, from morning until evening...³⁰ And [Paul] stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him,³¹ **preaching the kingdom of God AND teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ** with all openness, unhindered.





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Contrast:
The Gospel of the Grace in the Gospels & Acts


- After His rejection in Matthew 12, Jesus introduced in seed form, the Gospel of Grace, that is, that He would die for our sins, would be buried, and then would rise from the dead (cf. 1 Cor. 15:1-4).

<p>Matthew 16:21 ...Jesus began to show His disciples that He must...suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.</p> 	<p>Matthew 20:18-19 ¹⁸ "...the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, ¹⁹ ...and on the third day He will be raised up."</p> 
--	--

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1 Corinthians 15:1-4

¹ Now I make known to you, brethren, **the gospel which I preached to you**, which also you received, in which also you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. ³ **For I delivered to you** as of first importance what I also received, **that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,** ⁴ **and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,**




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Law and Grace: Session 19

Contrast:
The Gospel of the Grace in the Gospels & Acts

- This gospel of grace was preached to the Jews and then to Gentiles.


<p>Acts 20:24 "But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God."</p> 
--

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Contrast:
How do you live and how are you blessed?

- During the coming earthly reign of Christ in the Millennial Kingdom, the people of Israel will all be blessed ***in the land***, because they will all have the Holy Spirit indwelling them enabling them to know and perfectly live out **Kingdom Law**.




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Contrast:
How do you live and how are you blessed?

- In the Church, we in the Body of Christ, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, are already blessed heavenly in Christ, and Christ is right now living His life through us, ***apart from any Law***.



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Law and Grace: Session 19

"...you are not under **Law, but under **Grace**" (Rom. 6:14).**



- We want to come out from under the influence of Galatianism!**



- Walking in the Spirit has now taken the place of walking by ordinances!**

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