

# Law Versus Grace

by Bob Nyberg

The Apostle Paul made it clear that we are not under the law but under grace:

*Romans 6:14 ... for you are not under law but under grace.*

*Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."*

*Galatians 3:24-25 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.*

*Galatians 5:3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law.*

James concurred with Paul when he said:

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

Though the Christian is not under the law, does that mean he can do as he pleases? Paul addressed that issue when he said:

*Romans 6:15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!*

So how do we reconcile law versus grace? Maybe the following illustration will help.

Mind Set:	Motivation:	Realm:	Experiential Outworking:	Result:
Law Oriented	Obey the Law of Moses <b>in order to</b> merit God's favor...	for salvation.	The self-reliant sinner tries to earn God's favor by his own works.	I never knew you; depart from me. 1
		for sanctification.	The self-reliant Christian tries to gain God's blessings by his own efforts.	Wood, hay & stubble. 2
Grace Oriented	Obey the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus (Rom 8:2) <b>because of</b> God's unmerited favor...	for salvation and sanctification	The Christ-dependant believer rests in his position of being crucified with his risen Lord who is his sanctification.	Much fruit. 3

1. "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me...'" Mt. 7:22-23
2. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with ... wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 1 Cor. 3:11-13
3. John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."