

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

John 8:3,4,10,11

1. The woman taken in adultery was condemned to death by the law
2. Jesus pardoned her by showing his mercy, which is grace
3. She entered Christ's presence under the law, but she left His presence under grace
4. Even though she was under grace, Christ told her, "Go and sin no more"
5. Does this attitude offer us hope?

"Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?" "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."

Matthew 19:16,17

1. Commandment keeping is necessary for eternal life,. It is the fruit of a converted life
2. There are good things to do in life
3. How could you express your understanding of God's love in a prayer?

The New International Version of the Bible is used throughout

DISCOVERING THE BIBLE

LESSON 15

LAW AND GRACE

"If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder. If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a law-breaker. Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom."

James 2:8-12

1. James is talking about the 10 commandments—verse 11 uses the 6th and 7th commandments
2. Evidently the commandments were not done away with, because this was written around A.D. 60 — 29 years after the death of Jesus
3. Breaking any part of the law has the same consequences — we become law breakers
3. What do you know of the ten commandments?

"I will not violate my covenant or alter what my lips have uttered"

Psalms 89:34

1. God will not break His covenant or change his mind
2. The law was the only thing God spoke from heaven directly to His people
3. Does God's attitude indicate that He is hard and inflexible?

"Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness"

1 John 3:4

1. If we sin, we transgress the law
2. Sin is the transgression of the law. Therefore, violation of any one of the ten commandments is sin
3. We saw that sin starts as a broken relationship with God that results in actions that harm ourselves, others and God. Do you agree with this assessment?

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

1. Death is the penalty
2. God wants to find a way to help us escape death. He does it by grace—it is a gift

"For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!"

Romans 6:14,15

1. We are not at liberty to sin just because we are not saved by the law.
2. Grace gives us no right to transgress any part of the law

"So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith."

Galatians 3:24

1. One function of the law is that it is designed to lead us to Christ. It reveals God's justice
2. Jesus then reveals God's mercy

"Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

John 14:9

1. People who saw Jesus effectively saw the character of God
2. What is there that you have seen of the nature of God?
3. Could the nature or character of God be seen in the commandments?

"The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said.