

WHAT IS THE LAW?

The Law is a set of rules and regulations put in place by God (Ex 20-Leviticus)

- Moral Law (Ex20 1-17)
- Social Law (Ex21:1-23:13)
- Ceremonial Law (Ex 25:31-Leviticus)

The whole law is LOVE - Matt 22:36-40 - 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is **the first** and greatest commandment. 39 And **the second** is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Det 6:5) (Lev19:18)

The Law came from God through Moses - John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

The Law is either all or none - James 2:10-11 - 10 For whoever keeps the **whole law** and yet **stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking ALL OF IT.** 11 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 lawbreaker.

Who was the Law made for? - 1 Tim 1:8-11 - 8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. 9 We also know that law is made **not for the righteous** but for *lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, 10 for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers* — and for whatever else is **CONTRARY TO THE SOUND DOCTRINE** 11 that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

WHAT DID THE LAW DO?

The Law was placed for Justice until Jesus came-

Gal 3:20 What, then, **was the purpose of the law?** It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator.

Rom 5:20-21 - 20 The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, 21 so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Law made people aware of sin - Rom 3:19-20 - 19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. 20 Therefore **no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law;** rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

Sin and death existed since the fall but was only really seen through the Law - Rom 5:12-14 - 12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, **because all sinned**— 13 for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

The Law defines Sin - 1 John 3:4-6 - 4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. 5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. 6 No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

Those that were not under the Law will be judged apart from the Law while those under the Law will be judged by the Law - Rom 2:12-16 - 12 All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. 13 For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but **it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.** 14 (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15 since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) 16 This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

If you still live by the Law you are cursed - Gal 3:10-14 - 10 **All who rely on observing the law are under a curse**, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law."* 11 Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, "The righteous will live by faith." 12 **The law is not based on faith;** on the contrary, "The man who does these things will live by them." 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. (Deut 27:26) *

The Law revealed the problem; this is why we are so in need of HIS Spirit – Rom 7:21-25 - 21 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the →

→ law of sin at work within my members. 24 **What a wretched man I am!** Who will rescue me from **this body of death?** 25 Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

The Law is weakened because it depends on mans ability - Rom 8:1-4 - Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those **WHO ARE IN CHRIST JESUS,** 2 because through Christ Jesus the **law of the Spirit of life** set me free from the **law of sin and death.** 3 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was **weakened by the sinful nature,** God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, 4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, **who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.**

The Ceremonial law gave an image of what's to come- Heb 10:1-4 - The law is only a **shadow** of the good things that are coming — not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. 2 If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. 3 But those sacrifices are an **annual reminder of sins,** 4 because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

WHAT THE LAW COULDN'T DO

We are not, and cannot, be justified by observing the law - Gal 2:15-16- 15 "We who are Jews by birth and not 'Gentile sinners' 16 know that a man is **not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.** So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and **not by observing the law,** because by observing the law **NO ONE WILL BE JUSTIFIED.**

The Law couldn't give Life - Gal 3:21- Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law.

The Law couldn't give us the Holy Spirit - Gal 3:2 - I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?

The Law couldn't Save us -Gal 2:21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!

HOW DOES THE LAW WORK FOR US TODAY?

The law is what led us to faith - Gal 3:23-25 - 23 Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. 24 So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that faith has come, we are no longer **under the supervision of the law.**

Jesus came to fulfill, not abolish, the law. By fulfilling the law, we are not required to get the results of the Law because He did it for us - Matt 5:17-20 - 17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have **not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.** 18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law **until everything is accomplished*.** 19 Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

- Christ Fulfilled the **Moral Law** by living a sinless Life
- Christ Fulfilled the **Ceremonial Law/ordnances** by being the final perfect sacrifice, Temple and High Priest.
- Christ fulfilled the **Social Law** By showing the better way of doing it, by faith.

***Everything was accomplished when Jesus said "it is finished" (Jn 19:30)**

How we gain Christ's righteousness; We first accept Christ, we die to the Law and then we are released from the Law - Rom 7:1-6 - Do you not know, brothers — for I am speaking to men who know the law — that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. 3 So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man. 4 So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. 5 For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that **WE SERVE IN THE NEW WAY OF THE SPIRIT, and NOT IN THE OLD WAY OF THE WRITTEN CODE.**

Christ died so that we may have righteousness, something the Law could not give us- Gal 2:17-20 - 17 "If, while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! 18 If I rebuild what I destroyed, I PROVE THAT I AM A LAWBREAKER. 19 For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ and **I NO LONGER LIVE,** but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

We are justified by faith which makes us uphold the law - Rom 3:28-31 - 28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. 29 Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, 30 since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. 31 Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, WE UPHOLD THE LAW.

The human nature cannot live for God, that's why we must live in the Spirit - Rom 8:5-8 - 5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

What the Law brings out of us - Rom 7:4-12 - 4 So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. 5 For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. 7 What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet." 8 But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from law, sin is dead. 9 Once I was alive apart from law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. 10 I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. 11 For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. 12 So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

One Question answered, Jesus being our High Priest, shouldn't He have been born a Levite? - Heb 7:11-19 - 11 If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the law was given to the people), why was there still need for another priest to come — one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? 12 For when there is a change of the priesthood, there must also be a change of the law. 13 He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. 14 For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. 15 And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, 16 one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. 17 For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." 18 The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless 19 (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.

The regulation and rules of being under the Law have been canceled - Col 2:13-17 - 13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. 16 Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. 17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is FOUND IN CHRIST.

The difference maker is Faith - Heb 4:2 For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith.

Through Faith we are now under Christ's Law

Christians are now under another Law - 1 Cor 9:20-22 - 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am UNDER CHRIST'S LAW), so as to win those not having the law.

Our love being displayed for others fulfills Christ's Law - Gal 6:2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Just remember, the greatest command is to Love God, and to love God is to Obey God - 1 John 5:3 This is love for God: TO OBEY HIS COMMANDS. And his commands are not burdensome,

As stated earlier, obeying God's commands is fulfillment of the Law - Rom 13:8-10 - 8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Obeying means DOING, NOT just listening - James 1:22-25 - 22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. →

→25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does.

The Law gave us the opportunity to be righteous on our own (which we all failed to do (Rom 3:22-24)), therefore God provides the ONLY way to righteousness –

Phil 3:9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that **which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.**

Rom 10:1-13 - Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. 2 For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. 3 Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 **Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.** 5 Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." 6 But **the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).** 8 **But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: 9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.** 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. 11 As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." 12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile — the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Question: (Purpose of the Law)

Name: _____

1. The Law was separated by three different types, what are they?
2. Who is exactly was the Law made for?
3. What does it mean that the Law was added because of transgressions?
4. What does the Law do for us concerning sin?
5. Why is the Law not based on Faith?
6. What does it mean when it says Christ fulfilled the Law?
7. What was the weakness with the Law?
8. The High Priest under the Law was from what tribe?
9. What tribe is Jesus from?

10. What is the difference between the mosaic Law and Christ's Law?

11. Through Christ's Law works are not necessary. (True or False). Explain.