

Romans 8 • Perspective On The Role Of The Law And Obedience In The Christian Life

Our goal is to maintain a correct doctrine of justification and embrace the law as a rule of life meant to bless. We must not fall back into a “covenant of works”. We are to avoid both legalism and antinomianism. Paul is very strong in Romans to alert us to the dangers of legalism. So strong in fact, his readers asked questions like this: “What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace?” or “What then shall we say? That the law is sin?”

Galatians 3:3 Are you so foolish? **Having begun by the Spirit**, are you now being **perfected by the flesh**?

Romans 3:20 For by works of the **law** no human being will be justified in his sight, since **through the law comes knowledge of sin**.

Romans 4:14 For if it is the **adherents of the law** who are to be the **heirs, faith is null and the promise is void**.

Romans 5:20 Now **the law came in to increase the trespass**, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

Romans 6:14 For **sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law** but under grace.

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, **either of sin, which leads to death**, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Romans 6:21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? **For the end of those things is death**.

Romans 7:5 For while **we were living in the flesh**, our sinful passions, **aroused by the law**, were at work in our members **to bear fruit for death**.

Romans 6:17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become **obedient from the heart** to the standard of teaching to which you were committed,

Romans 7:6 But **now we are released from the law**, having died to that which held us captive, so that **we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.**

Romans 7:12 So the **law is holy**, and the **commandment is holy and righteous and good.**

Romans 8:3 **For God has done what the law**, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

Romans 8:4 **in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us**, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:9 **You**, however, **are not in the flesh but in the Spirit**, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. **Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.**

Romans 8:10 But **if Christ is in you**, although the body is dead because of sin, the **Spirit is life** because of righteousness.

Romans 8:11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead **will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.**

Romans 8:12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

Romans 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, **but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**

Romans 8:14 For all who are **led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.**

Romans 8:15 For **you did not** receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but **you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"**

Romans 8:16 The **Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,**

Romans 8:32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, **how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?**

Psalms 103:8 The Lord is **merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

James 1:14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

James 1:15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

James 1:16 **Do not be deceived**, my beloved brothers.

James 1:17 **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above**, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Genesis 2:16 And the **Lord God commanded** the man, saying, “**You may** surely eat of every tree of the garden,

Genesis 2:17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**”

Genesis 3:1 Now **the serpent** was **more crafty** than any other beast of the field **that the Lord God had made**. He said to the woman, “**Did God actually say**, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

Genesis 3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, “**We may** eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,

Genesis 3:3 but God said, ‘**You shall not** eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, **neither shall you touch it, lest you die.**’”

Genesis 3:4 **But the serpent said** to the woman, “**You will not surely die.**

Genesis 3:5 For God knows that when you eat of it **your eyes will be opened**, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.”

Genesis 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, **and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise**, she

took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Psalms 19:7 **The law of the Lord is perfect**, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

Exodus 9:18 Behold, about this time tomorrow **I will cause very heavy hail to fall**, such as never has been in Egypt from the day it was founded until now.

Exodus 9:19 Now **therefore send, get your livestock and all that you have in the field into safe shelter**, for every man and beast that is in the field and is not brought home **will die** when the hail falls on them.””

Exodus 9:20 Then **whoever feared the word of the Lord** among the servants of Pharaoh hurried his slaves and his livestock into the houses,

Exodus 9:21 but **whoever did not pay attention to the word of the Lord left his slaves and his livestock in the field.**

Exodus 9:25 **The hail struck down everything that was in the field in all the land of Egypt, both man and beast.** And the hail struck down every plant of the field and broke every tree of the field.

Jeremiah 31:31 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,

Jeremiah 31:32 **not like the covenant** that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 31:33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.** And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. **For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”**

Galatians 4:6 And because you are sons, **God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”**

Ezekiel 36:27 And **I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

*“Run John run
the law commands but gives me neither feet nor hands
far better news the gospel brings
it bids me fly and gives me wings.”*

Attributed to John Bunyan

The notion that the salvation of Jesus is a salvation from the consequences of our sin is a false, mean, low notion. The salvation of Christ is a salvation from the smallest tendency or leaning to sin. It is deliverance into the pure air of God’s ways of thinking and feeling. It is a salvation that makes the heart pure with the will and the choice of the heart to be pure. To such heart, sin is disgusting.

George MacDonald, Unspoken Sermons

Deliverance from the dominion of sin does not leave the person in a vacuum or in a state of neutrality; it is deliverance to if it is deliverance from. And it is deliverance to holiness and righteousness.

John Murray

'The law sends us to the gospel for our justification; the gospel sends us to the law to frame our way of life'.

Samuel Bolton

Love God and do whatever you please: for the soul trained in love to God will do nothing to offend the One who is beloved.

Augustine (paraphrase)