

# **Law Review**



## **Other Bible Studies by Karen Conklin**

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*Why the Tribulation?*

Why God Will Bring Seven Years of Judgement to the Earth

*What the Bible Says about Heaven & What the Bible Says  
About Angels*

This study is dedicated first to my wonderful husband and partner, Derek. It has been our privilege to conduct Bible studies together in a retirement community near our home. It is edifying to study the Bible with older students, who have studied the Bible for their long lifetimes. This study was inspired by their questions about following the Law.

This study is also dedicated to Matti, Daisy, and Wilbur. Every day they remind me of the love God has for all of His creatures and how lucky we are that He has chosen to share them with us.



## Introduction & Outline

Are you still trying to follow the 10 Commandments to get to heaven? The 10 Commandments are 10 parts of a much larger law with 613 parts, given to Moses for Israel. But the 10 Commandments are not the only law given to man by God. Remember the ark?

How do you know that you are following the right law given by God? This study will explain the progression of laws that God has dispensed throughout history, who the laws were given to, why they were necessary, and if they are applicable to us today.

You will find that today, we are not under any law for our salvation. People who believe that the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ paid for the sins of all mankind, are saved, and on their way to heaven. Jesus followed and fulfilled every Law perfectly for each of us, and paid our debt for every sin we've ever committed—or ever will commit. You have been freed from the Law.

## **Law Review**

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## 1. The First Dispensation of Law from God

The topic for this study is the Law. Throughout every dispensation of Law from God, there have been specific instructions about how believers are to show their faith.

Man was perfect when God created him in His own image.

### Genesis 1:27,31

<sup>27</sup>So **God created man in his own image**, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. <sup>31</sup>And **God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

The first dispensation from God was very simple. Adam and Eve were not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### Genesis 2:15-17

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying,

**Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**

But Adam and Eve did not obey God.

Genesis 3:2-6

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: **But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.** And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. **And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.**

Because of his disobedience, sin entered the world and man would need a savior if he were ever to be able to live again with God.

The first mention of a redeemer for mankind came as God was pronouncing a curse on the serpent and Eve for disobedience. He promised that a redeemer would come from the seed of the woman.

### Genesis 3:14-15

And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: **And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.**

In His mercy, God also made sure that since man was now sinful, he could not eat of the tree of life to make himself immortal. An immortal, sinful man would spend eternity separated from God, without the chance for redemption.

### Genesis 3:22-24

And the LORD God said, Behold, **the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of**

**the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:**

Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. **So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.**

Since man knew the difference between good and evil, it was up to each person to choose to do good (obey God) and not evil.

The Bible does not tell us how Cain and Abel knew to bring an offering to the Lord, but we know from the following passage that God dispensed new information, a law, a way to atone for sin.

Genesis 4:3-5

And in process of time it came to pass, that **Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he**

**had not respect.** And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

We know from the context that this was an offering for sin. Atoning for sin required a blood sacrifice. The author of Hebrews explains it.

Hebrews 9:22

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and **without shedding of blood is no remission.**

Genesis tells us that men began to call upon the name of the Lord. They were aware that they needed God.

Genesis 4:25-26

And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew. And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: **then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.**

Satan couldn't let that happen!

## 2. The Second Dispensation of Law from God

Satan had a plan, to send the fallen angels (sons of God) to earth to take on human form and marry human women. The people born from this intermarrying were hybrids, known as Nephilim. The Nephilim were evil giants.

### Genesis 6:1-8

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, **That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.** And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

**There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. **And it repented the LORD that he had made man on**

**the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.**

Remember, God had promised that the redeemer of mankind would come from the seed of the woman. What better way to prevent the redeemer than to corrupt everyone's bloodlines?

God's answer to Satan's plan was to destroy everyone on earth who was evil. Noah was "perfect in his generations," his bloodline was not tainted by Nephilim blood. God dispensed new information to Noah. He was given 120 years to build an ark, and tell everyone about the coming destruction. People who believed Noah (and believed God) would get on the ark and be saved from the flood, those who didn't would be destroyed.

Genesis 6:9-13, 17

These are the generations of Noah: **Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations**, and Noah walked with God. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And **God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.** And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. <sup>17</sup>**And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.**

Even after 120 years, it turned out that the only people to believe God, were Noah and his 3 sons and their wives—8 people.

After the flood, when the people and the animals got off the ark, God dispensed new law. God told Noah and his family to, “be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth” (twice.) He also told

them they could start eating animals and the animals would fear them.

Genesis 9:3-7

**And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.** And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. **And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.**

### 3. The Third Dispensation of Law from God

God also set up a system of government—men would govern man. Capital punishment was instituted, “Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed.”

There was now government by man, and the first leader we hear about was Nimrod, the king of Babel, Noah’s great grandson.

#### Genesis 10:6-10

**And the sons of Ham; Cush,** and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan. And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtecha: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan. **And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.** He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. **And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel,** and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

But Nimrod did not lead the people to obey God. As the people began to multiply, he did not

encourage them to replenish the earth, he wanted them to stay together.

Even with human government set up to implement God's law, man still disobeyed God.

Genesis 11:4-9

**And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.** And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. **Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.**

Man's government didn't solve the obedience problem. Nimrod was a mighty leader, but encouraged the people to do exactly the opposite of what God wanted.

## 4. The Fourth Dispensation of Law from God

God then called out a specific group of people to be His people and God would govern them directly. He called out Abram and told him that He would give him a land and a people that would become a great nation.

### Genesis 12:1-3

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, **unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:** And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

The new Law that God dispensed to Abraham would give a national identity to His new people. He required that all men, Jew or Gentile, be circumcised as a token of the covenant. It was a show of faith.

### Genesis 17:9-12

And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. **This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.** And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. **And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.**

The covenant passed to Abraham's son Isaac, and to his son, Jacob.

### Genesis 35:9-12

And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him. And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out

of thy loins; **And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.**

Jacob's son, Joseph, was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. God worked it for good and Joseph became second, only to the Pharaoh, in command of Egypt.

When famine hit them in Canaan, Joseph's brothers went to Egypt for food. They discovered their brother Joseph, was still alive, and in charge of all of the food distribution in Egypt. Joseph forgave his brothers and arranged for his entire family to move to Egypt to avoid the famine.

When Joseph died, everything changed for his family. They were enslaved by the new king.

Exodus 1:6-11

**And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.** And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them. **Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.**

And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we: Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land. **Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.**

## 5. The Fifth Dispensation of Law from God

After 400 years of slavery in Egypt, God called on Moses to lead His people to freedom in the land He promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God would govern them and if they would obey Him, they would be a peculiar treasure unto Him, above all other people.

### Exodus 19:1-7

In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai. For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount. **And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto**

**me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.** And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him.

The people of Israel told Moses that they would follow God's Law.

Exodus 19:8

And all the people answered together, and **said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.** And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

Here are the 10 Commandments that are so familiar to us. This is only the first 10 parts of the 613 parts of the entire Law. (Read the book of Leviticus for the entire Law.)

Exodus 20:3-17

**(1)Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**  
**(2)Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image,** or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or

that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

**(3)Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain;** for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

**(4)Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. **(5)Honour thy father and thy**

**mother:** that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. **(6)Thou shalt not kill. (7)Thou shalt not commit adultery. (8)Thou shalt not steal. (9)Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.**

**(10)Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.**

But after the entire generation of people who had seen all of the miracles that God had done for them died, the next generation did not follow the commandments of God.

Judges 2:10-13

**And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim: **And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger. And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.****

The people followed the gods of the people around them. When Israel got in trouble, and would call upon Him, God would raise up a judge (a temporary ruler) and work with that person. When the judge died, the people went back to ignoring God.

Judges 2:16-19

**Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.** And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: **they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; but they did not so. And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge:** for it repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them. And it came to pass, **when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them;** they ceased not

from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way.

In the book of Judges, it says that because there was no king in Israel, everyone did what was right in his own eyes. You can imagine how well that worked for them!

Judges 17:6

**In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**

Judges 21:25

**In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**

Samuel was the last judge of Israel.

Samuel 7:15-17

**And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.**

And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.

But Israel did not want God to rule them through judges. They wanted a king like other nations.

### 1 Samuel 8:4-7

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: **now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.** But the thing displeased Samuel, **when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.**

So God gave them King Saul.

### 1 Samuel 9:1-2

Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power. And **he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children**

**of Israel a goodlier person than he:** from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.

But Saul did not obey God and God rejected him as king.

1 Samuel 15:23-28

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. **And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD,** and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD. And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: **for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.** And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent. And Samuel said unto him, **The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and**

**hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is  
better than thou.**

## 6. The Sixth Dispensation of Law from God

That neighbor was King David. God dispensed new information, another covenant, that Israel would have a king to rule them, from the line of David, in a kingdom that will last forever. This covenant did not depend on Israel's obedience.

### 1 Kings 9:5

**Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel.**

### Acts 2:30

Therefore being a prophet, and **knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;** King David's heart was perfect with the Lord, but his son's—Solomon's—was not.

### 1 Kings 11:4

For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods:

**and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.**

God decided to take the kingdom away from Solomon. God split the kingdom of Israel upon Solomon's death and give 10 of the 12 tribes to Solomon's servant, Jeroboam. That kingdom would be known as Israel.

1 Kings 11:11

Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon,  
**Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.**

God told Jeroboam, that he would rule over every tribe of Israel but one. That one tribe would be left for Solomon's son, Rehoboam, so God would always have David's light in the city of God's name. (The tribe of Benjamin was also with the tribe of Judah but that tribe was so small that it didn't count.) That kingdom would be known by the name of the main tribe, Judah.

God even promised Jeroboam that if he would do as God commanded him, God would set him up with a “sure house” like He had done for David. Jeroboam and his seed would rule forever on that throne!

1 Kings 11:36-38

**And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light always before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.** And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel. And it shall be, **if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight,** to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; **that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee.**

You have probably guessed that King Jeroboam, ruling over Israel, did not obey God. He did something so outrageous that it was unbelievable! He made Israel worship 2 golden calves, at a made-up feast!

### 1 Kings 12:32-33

**And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Bethel, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made:** and he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places which he had made. So he offered upon the altar which he had made in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised of his own heart; and ordained a feast unto the children of Israel: and he offered upon the altar, and burnt incense.

Because of Jeroboam's disobedience, God ended the kingdom of Israel, during the reign of Hoshea, by allowing Assyria to carry them out of the land.

### 2 Kings 17:21-23

**For he rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin. For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them; Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight,**

**as he had said by all his servants the prophets.  
So was Israel carried away out of their own land  
to Assyria unto this day.**

There was war between Israel and Judah all of  
the days of Jeroboam and Rehoboam.

1 Kings 14:30

**And there was war between Rehoboam and  
Jeroboam all their days.**

Rehoboam didn't do any better with the kingdom  
of Judah.

2 Chronicles 12:1

And it came to pass, **when Rehoboam had  
established the kingdom, and had strengthened  
himself, he forsook the law of the LORD, and all  
Israel with him.**

Jehoiakim was made one last offer of mercy from  
God.

Jeremiah 36:1-3

And it came to pass **in the fourth year of  
Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah king of Judah, that

this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day. **It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.**

Do you know Jehoiakim's response to God's offer? He cut it up and burned it in the fire! Neither King Jehoiakim nor any of his servants were grateful for God's infinite mercy or afraid of God doing what He said He would do.

#### Jeremiah 36:23-24

And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, **he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth. Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.**

God finally stopped David's line (through Solomon and Rehoboam) with King Jeconiah. Judah was then carried away to Babylon during the reign of Coniah, Jehoiakim's son.

Even though they were allowed to return to Jerusalem, after 70 years, Judah has not been a kingdom since that time, but has been ruled by other nations since.

### Jeremiah 22:28-30

Is this man Coniah a despised broken idol? is he a vessel wherein is no pleasure? **wherefore are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into a land which they know not?** O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the LORD, **Write ye this man childless, a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.**

The man who will sit on David's throne forever, Jesus Christ, was born in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. He presented Himself as King of Israel, the one to sit on His father, David's throne, on Palm Sunday.

### Luke 19:35-38

And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon. And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way. And **when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.**

God always keeps His promises. The covenant He had with David was that David would have a son, the fruit of his loins according to the flesh, to sit on his throne forever. The surprise is that the King, Jesus Christ, who was David's son, would come through the line of Nathan, Solomon's brother, and then through Mary's father Heli and then through Mary, the mother of Jesus.

### Acts 2:29-31

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of **the patriarch David**, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

Therefore being a prophet, and **knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;** He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

That son was Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:3

Concerning his Son **Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;**

John 7:42

Hath not the scripture said, **That Christ cometh of the seed of David,** and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?

The people recognized Jesus as King on that Palm Sunday, but the Jewish leadership rejected Him.

Luke 19:39-40

And **some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy**

**disciples.** And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

After Jesus' ascension, Peter went around explaining that Jesus Christ was Israel's redeemer and King. Israel had first rejected God ruling over them (through judges) and now rejected Jesus Christ coming to set up the kingdom of Israel that will last forever.

### Acts 2:36-37

Therefore **let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.** Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Jesus Christ had warned that all blasphemies can be forgiven except blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. So Israel still had a chance at forgiveness.

### Mark 3:28-29

Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: **But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:**

Blasphemy against the Holy Ghost happened about a year after Jesus' crucifixion, when Stephen was stoned.

Stephen told the Jewish leadership that they always resisted the Holy Ghost, persecuted the prophets, killed the prophets that told of Jesus' coming, then betrayed and murdered Jesus Himself. He also told them that they did not keep the Law. They refused to listen.

The leadership did what they always did, resisted the Holy Ghost as He spoke through Stephen.

### Acts 7:51-52

Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, **ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.** Which of the prophets

have not your fathers persecuted? and **they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:** Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

Then they did just what Stephen said they had been doing—killed the prophet bringing them the message.

Acts 7:55-59

**But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven,** and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. **Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him:** and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

## 7. The Seventh Dispensation of Law from God

Jesus had warned Israel about the penalty for blaspheming against the Holy Ghost. They would not be forgiven. God set Israel aside for their blasphemy and unbelief.

### Acts 28:26-27

Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: **For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.**

Because of Israel's disobedience, God decided to take His message of salvation directly to the Gentiles.

### Acts 28:28

Be it known therefore unto you, that **the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.**

God began bringing salvation to the Gentiles, without the Law. The Bible tells us that following the Law cannot make us perfect, because we can't follow it perfectly. The purpose of the Law is to make us aware of sin and our guilt.

Romans 3:19-20

Now we know that what things **soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law:** that every mouth may be stopped, and **all the world may become guilty before God.**

**Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.**

The new revelation from God for us today is that we are not justified by the Law. We must simply believe that we are justified by Jesus Christ. No one could ever be justified by the Law.

Acts 13:39

And **by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.**

The Bible teaches us (as you have seen in this study) that no can follow the Law perfectly. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:21-23

**But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: **for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;****

Paul said that now, we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ, not by following the Law.

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that **a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, **that we might be justified by the faith of Christ**, and not by the works of the law: **for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.**

If we could have become righteous by following the Law, then Christ didn't need to die to save us.

### Galatians 2:21

I do not frustrate the grace of God: **for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.**

But Christ did need to die to save us. We are saved only by believing that Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection made us righteous.

### Romans 3:26

**To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.**

Here it is in a nutshell. We are justified by faith in Jesus' righteousness (alone) without being required to do anything to show our faith.

### Romans 3:28

Therefore **we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.**

If all we need is faith for our justification, is the Law now void? Paul says that by knowing we need Jesus' saving work on our behalf, we

establish, or validate, the Law and its intended purpose.

Romans 3:31

**Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.**

And this is not only for the Jews, it is for the Gentiles, us today, also.

Romans 3:29

Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? **Yes, of the Gentiles also:**

Paul explains that when God dispensed the Law to man, the offence, sin, was brought out. But God's grace is always greater than sin. Sin caused death, but God's Grace now brings righteousness and eternal life for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:20-21

**Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound.** But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That **as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through**

## **righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.**

God knows how men think. “If God shows His Grace when I sin, should I sin more so God can show more Grace?” Paul answers that question, “God forbid.” We are dead to sin, so how can we want to live in sin any longer?

### Romans 6:1-2

**What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?**

We believers, who understand that we are no longer under Law to show our faith, have incredible liberty. Paul warns us against doing something sinful (an occasion to the flesh) just because we can.

### Galatians 5:13

For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; **only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh,** but by love serve one another.

We know (and should do) what pleases God because the Law can be summed up in one word: love. Then Paul tells us something you have heard before, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Galatians 5:14

**For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

Paul also reviews with us the 10 commandments (without #4 to honor the Sabbath) and again says that loving our neighbor is fulfilling the Law. The numbers in parenthesis are the corresponding commandments given to Israel on page 27.

Romans 13:7-10

<sup>7</sup> (1,2,3)Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; **(5)honour to whom honour.**

<sup>8</sup>Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: **for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.**

<sup>9</sup>For this, **(7)Thou shalt not commit adultery, (6)Thou shalt not kill, (8)Thou shalt not steal, (9)Thou shalt not bear false witness, (10)Thou shalt not covet;** and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this

saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. <sup>10</sup>Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: **therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.**

Following the 10 Commandments is a great goal to set for yourself, as long as you know that you will not be able to do it. God has already forgiven you for your failures so you must be ready to forgive yourself when (not if) you fail. Don't let anyone tell you that failure in any way affects your eternal salvation.

Remember what Jesus told the Jews (who were required to follow the Law to show their faith?) He summed up all 613 parts of the Law of Moses in 2 commandments. Love the Lord thy God and love your neighbor as yourself.

Matthew 22:36-40

**Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

**On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

Jesus also said that He came to fulfill, not destroy the Law. The Law will exist until that time when there is a new heaven and a new earth.

Matthew 5:17-18

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: **I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.** For verily I say unto you, **Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

In fact, it will be easier to get a new heaven and new earth than for the Law to fail!

Luke 16:17

**And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.**

## 8. The Eighth Dispensation of Law from God

Before the new heaven and new earth, Christ will come back to rule Israel from His father David's throne. Israel's two kingdoms will be united into one. The people will follow the Law and walk in God's judgements and observe His statutes.

Ezekiel 37:22, 24-25

**And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:** <sup>24</sup>And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: **they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.** And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and **my servant David shall be their prince for ever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them;** it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place

them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

How will it happen that people will finally follow the Law in Christ's kingdom? He will write the Law in everyone's hearts.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: **But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.** And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for **they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will**

**forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.**

## #9 Conclusion

Today, many people are still trying to follow the 10 Commandments to earn their salvation from God. Salvation could never be earned by anything that man did. Following God's Law was always the way God's people showed their faith. It was never about earning their salvation.

We have the Bible as a written record to see how, throughout history, the Law never made anyone righteous. Its purpose has always been to show man that he is sinful and needs a redeemer.

That redeemer is Jesus Christ, whom God sent to earth, and who died for our sins, was buried and rose again. When we accept His sacrifice on our behalf, we are saved, sealed by the Holy Ghost, and on our way to heaven. Paul says it plainly in Romans 10:4: "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

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