

Prosperity, Success, Wisdom, & Understanding

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There are many preachers, pastors, and teachers of religion that expound the idea of “no law” of God is in effect today because they think that Jesus Christ fulfilled all of that “law.” They accuse those that say otherwise of being “legalists.” But just what does the Word of God really say about this subject?

^{Matthew 5:17} Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

^{Vs. 18} 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.

^{Vs. 19} Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Now why would the Christ of God bother to tell us this if He were going to fulfill all of the law with His death and resurrection which took place no more than three and one half years later? These verses He spoke as part of the “sermon on the mount” not long after His being tempted in the wilderness by Satan at the beginning of His ministry.

But the key to these verses is in the time frame that He gives us in verse 18: “Till heaven and earth pass.” Until Heaven and earth pass away, (see Revelation 21) not even one dot of an “I” or cross of a “T” will go away from the Law of God. But that has to mean that the entire Law of God is still in effect. The only exceptions are the few things that Christ changed within the Law, such as the way that Passover is celebrated with bread and wine as opposed to the killing of a lamb. (That killing of a lamb was a symbol of Christ’s own death, something that He fulfilled.)

From verse 19 above we can conclude that the Law of God will be in effect during the Millennium of the Kingdom of God here on earth which is before the New Heaven and New Earth spoken of in Revelation 21.

^{Revelation 21:1} And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for **the first heaven and the first earth were passed away**; and there was no more sea.

If you pay attention to the time frame of this verse it is after the 1000-year reign of Christ, after the release of Satan and his tempting of the whole world, after his being thrown into the lake of fire, and after the Great White Throne Judgment; all of which take place in chapter 20. Revelation is a sequential Book.

So with the Law of God being settled as being in effect now, just what are its benefits? First of all we need to understand the terms that God uses in the Scriptures in regard to His Law.

LAW 8451. *to-law*’; **a precept or statute**, espec. **the Decalogue** or **Pentateuch**:— law.

The Decalogue is the Ten Commandments and the Pentateuch is the first 5 books of the Old Testament. That is what Strong’s Concordance has to say but what about a dictionary: “a

rule of conduct prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority.” (Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary Tenth Edition used throughout).

STATUTE 2708. *khook-kaw*’; appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site, statute.

The dictionary says that a statute is “an act of a corporation or if its founder intended as a permanent rule.”

ORDINANCE 2708. *khook-kaw*’; appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site, statute. & 2706. *khoke*; an *enactment*; hence, an *appointment* (of time, space, quantity, labor or usage):— appointed, bound, commandment, convenient, custom, decree (-d), due, law, measure, × necessary, ordinance (-nary), portion, set time, statute, task.

The dictionary on this one is: “something ordained or decreed by fate or a deity.”

JUDGMENTS 4941. *mish-pawt*’; prop. a *verdict* (favorable or unfavorable) pronounced judicially, espec. a *sentence* or formal decree (human or [participant’s] divine *law*, indiv. or collect.), incl. the act, the place, the suit, the crime, and the penalty; abstr. *justice*, incl. a participant’s *right* or *privilege* (statutory or customary), or even a *style*:— + adversary, ceremony, charge, × crime, custom, desert, determination, discretion, disposing, due, fashion, form, to be judged, judgment, just (-ice, -ly), (manner of) law (-ful), manner, measure, (due) order, ordinance, right, sentence, usest, × worthy, + wrong.

And the English definition of this is: “a formal utterance of an authoritative opinion, a divine sentence or decision.”

COMMANDMENTS 4687. *mits-vaw*’; a *command*, whether human or divine (collect. the *Law*):— (which was) commanded (-ment), law, ordinance, precept.

This definition is: “to direct authoritatively.”

Statutes are usually permanent acts of law: “do this” or “don’t do that”. Ordinances generally deal with ceremonies and holy days. Judgments are verdicts, or sentences, or penalties for violation of His laws. Commandments are authoritative pronouncements where the understanding might be obscure but just “do” or “don’t do” such-in-such because I say so; says God. A good example would be: “Don’t eat pork.”

Now we can start to explore the benefits of keeping God’s Law.

^{Joshua 1:5} There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

^{Vs. 6} Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

^{Vs. 7} Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it *to* the right hand or *to* the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

Vs. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but **thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.**

Notice the way that this is worded: we are to meditate, give deep thought to His law all day to the point that we dream about it at night, so that we carefully observe to do all of it. Then we will be prosperous in our way and have good success. Prosperity and good success are two of the products of meditating on God's Law so that we do God's Law.

Now let's check out how this theme is repeated in the Scriptures.

Leviticus 26:3 **If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them;**

Vs. 4 Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.

Vs. 5 And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.

Vs. 6 And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make *you* afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land.

Vs. 7 And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword.

Vs. 8 And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.

Vs. 9 For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you.

Vs. 10 And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new.

Vs. 11 And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you.

Vs. 12 And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.

Vs. 13 I *am* the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright.

These verses contain a bunch of details of prosperity and success all contingent on verse 3: "If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them." That's the positive side. Verses 14 through the end of the chapter give the negative side of what happens if we don't do verse 3. Before going on with this study take the time to read the rest of this chapter; it is very enlightening.

Next, before we get out of the Books of The Law:

Deuteronomy 29:9 **Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.**

The covenant, whether old or new is based on our obedience to God's Law. (See Matthew 5:17-19 above.) Prosperity is contingent upon our obedience. This is our part of the covenant. God's part is to "supply all of our need" (Phil. 4:19) and bring about our prosperity and success. His riches in glory come from our imitating Him by observing His Law. That's right; the Law of God is His Lifestyle. It is how He lives. When we observe His Law we are imitating Him. And in that is the manifestation of His power.

David knew this principle.

^{Psalm 1:1} Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

^{Vs. 2} But **his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.**

^{Vs. 3} And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and **whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.**

Take a look at an addition to the qualifications: your "delight" must be in the Law of the Lord. You can't just do it out of obligation like "I got to do this." It must be your delight as in the next example:

^{Psalm 119:97} O how love I thy law! it *is* my meditation all the day.

This is where it starts.

^{Vs. 98} Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they *are* ever with me.

There is the next benefit, wisdom.

^{Vs. 99} I have more **understanding than all my teachers:** for thy testimonies *are* my meditation.

^{Vs. 100} I **understand** more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

And there is the next benefit, understanding. And we're not just talking any understanding, but more than those that would presume to be our teachers, and more than the ancients. Why? Because "thy testimonies *are* my meditation" and "because I keep thy precepts." He is not just a hearer of the Word but also a doer of the Word. He studies to hide God's Word in his heart so that he might do it all of the time.

^{Vs. 101} I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

^{Vs. 102} I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.

^{Vs. 103} How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

^{Vs. 104} Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

^{Vs. 105} Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

^{Vs. 106} I have sworn, and I will perform *it*, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

And then look at what he did next:

¹Kings 2:1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

^{Vs. 2} I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;

^{Vs. 3} And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, **to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies,** as it is written in the law of Moses, **that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:**

David now passes on to Solomon his son and the next king this principle of reciprocity. That's right; for the action of meditating on God's Law, His way of life and doing it; we get the title of this study: Prosperity, Success, Wisdom, & Understanding. And that is not all; we get the Kingdom of God.

This is repeated in 1 Chronicles 22: 7-13. Take the time to read these verses as a reinforcement of what was said above.

^{Matthew 23:23} Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

With these words Christ tells us that both the external Letter of the Law and the internal Spirit of the Law is to be done. But you can't do the internal Spirit of the Law if it is not in you; if you have not meditated on it day and night. That is the only way that the Spirit of the Law can get in you. And that is the only way that you can enjoy true prosperity, success, wisdom and understanding.

^{Proverbs 9:10} The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

^{Vs. 11} For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.

Amen

Sources

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