

CHAPTER D19

LAW AND GRACE

You may have noticed places in Scripture that suggest saints were sinners even *before* we became God's children subject to His law. Tradition says the law that governed us *before* we became subject to God's rule was damnation to hell. Is tradition correct?

Also, there are lots of rules from God in the Old Testament that are ignored today because the New Testament makes it clear that at least some things in the Old Testament have been replaced by grace. But since nobody wants to denigrate or be disrespectful of God's word by ignoring some of it, some groups teach that we should "keep the law." Because they cannot keep the whole law, however, they divide the Old Testament into two main groups of laws so they can ignore the group with "less authority." The first group they call the authoritative law of the Lord, also called "divine law." This divine group must be kept. The second group is the law of Moses, or "human law." These human laws were made by various human authorities such as Moses and Paul and are (they incorrectly think) of lesser authority as proven (they think) by **Mt 19:7,8; 1 Co 7:6,12,25,40; Ac 5:29**. They Reason that these human laws were just well-intentioned attempts to create a societal structure more conducive to keeping the divine law of the Lord. And because these laws are of lesser authority than divine laws they may safely be ignored today because societal structure has changed. (This poorly thought-out teaching makes the word of God subservient to the changing dictates of society.) These groups do have some clever and unusual theories and interpretations of Scripture based on their foundational belief in the differing amounts of authority given by God to the law of Moses and the law of the Lord. For example, they say the first four of the Ten Commandments, which have to do with God, typify divine law, while the last six, having to do with man, typify human law. You don't need to be able to see the speciousness of that thinking in order to see that their foundational belief is as wrong as the religious structure built upon it. Three things show that these groups do err, knowing neither the Scriptures nor the power (authority) of God: First, God uses "law of Moses" and "law of the Lord" as interchangeable synonyms in **Lk 2:22,24**. Therefore we are divinely commanded by the power, intelligence, exactness, infallibility, and example of Almighty God to treat the two as the same – just as God does. Second, the Bible teaches those that have ears to hear to treat the rulings of human authorities as if they were divine decrees. For example, if you have a rule that your child is to keep his bedroom cleaned up, he is to treat your rule as divine law. There is no difference between "divine law" and "human law." Third, the entire Bible is the inspired word of God.

Again, nobody wants to denigrate or be disrespectful of God's word or His laws. So when your child grows up and lives in his own house is he disrespectful to you or to God if he has a messy bedroom? Of course not, you never intended that law to be permanent. Let's now examine God's laws to see if He, too, has laws that are temporary.

The concepts and explanations in this chapter are dull, but not difficult. Because of the slow, thoughtful pace required to absorb this chapter, I think it will help if you know from the outset all the laws we'll discuss. There are but two real Laws, and each has lesser pseudo laws under it. Here is how those Laws and the lesser laws under them are categorized: (In order to make things easier to understand I shall only capitalize permanent Laws. Temporary laws, also called pseudo laws, will either be assigned a name that doesn't contain the word *law* or, if *law* is used, it will not be capitalized.)

The **First Testament** (also called the **Law of sin and death**): This is the first true Law. It is the lake of fire; it is eternal damnation.

- The law of mortality: This pseudo law is a curse, a vague schoolmaster, and a type of the Law of sin and death.
- The Old Testament: This pseudo law is a curse, a schoolmaster, and a type of the Law of sin and death. But because of its promise of better things to come and its hidden message of grace, it is also a type of the New Testament.

The **Second Testament** (also called the **Law of grace**): This is the second and final true Law. It is the real "eternal security."

- The state of grace: This is not a law – it is a condition.
- The scepter of grace: This is not a law – it is a condition.
- The New Testament: This is the fulfillment of both the law of mortality and the Old Testament. Because Christ was true man the written New Testament is a pseudo law. Because Christ was true God the Law of grace revealed in the New Testament is a true Law.

Back when God birthed His children, the angels (**He 1:7; 12:9b; Jb 1:6**), *there was no law* because that's how God wants it to be. All lived in an unselfish "family situation" in which the governing love for God motivated all to do God's will. Unity, harmony, and order existed. There was never a selfish temptation to consider one's own opinion or will as equal to God's because the evil concept of equality did not exist. Because there were no laws, sin was not imputed (**Ro 4:15; 5:13**), which means death did not exist (**Ro 6:23; 7:9**). This situation was temporary because God always intended to test His children's love by creating evil (**Is 45:7**) so those who agreed with and availed themselves of equality might fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. Therefore we'll call this blissful-but-temporary pre-evil situation a *state* of grace.

After God created evil and He saw His son, Lucifer, starting to go bad, like any parent He took steps to correct his conduct. However, at some point God got so fed up with Lucifer He took a radical and unprecedented step: He issued a warning (similar to the one He would give Adam) in the form of an unequivocal and irrevocable ultimatum: "Lucifer, if you do that one more time, you shall surely die." That was a shocking and dramatic event for two reasons. First, it was the *first* formal declaration of something that would never be changed. This type of irrevocable decree or Law is called a *Testament* because it is based on the finality of death. But it is only final and only really becomes a testament when the testator dies (**He 9:16,17**) because up until his death the testator can always change his mind/will. The existence of that irrevocable Testament caused the second dramatic event: Once God made this *First Testament* known, His children were no longer under the blissful and temporary state of grace – they were under the stressful and temporary *scepter* of grace (**Es 4:11; 5:2**). Why stressful? Because at that point Gabriel, Lucifer, and Michael – like you and me today – were required to walk *circumspectly*, to toe the line in order to avoid the possibility of falling from grace (like Lucifer did) and ending up under the First Testament Law, which is called the Law of sin and death in **Ro 8:2**. The fact that it was possible to fall from grace shows that the scepter of grace is temporary. Remember, if the Sovereign has the prerogative to extend His scepter, He can also withdraw it. (When grace

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becomes permanent it will be called the Law of grace.) A true Law is permanent and irrevocable, and once you come under a Law (such as the presently-available Law of sin and death and the presently-existing-but-not-yet-available Law of grace) you can never escape it. Never.

The First Testament Law of sin and death is a perfect example of the irrevocability of Law. This Law defined sin and the wages of sin, which is death. And death is living in torment forever. That's what the lake of fire is. And the lake of fire will only go away when the First Testament Law of sin and death goes away – never. True Laws are permanent and can never be escaped.

Why does the wages of sin have to be *death*? Because true Law is a Testament. And a Testament is based on the *death* of the Testator. Because true death and the word *forever* go together, a true Law/Testament is permanent/forever. Lesser laws, however, are temporary because they are not based on true death; they are based on decrees and on the pseudo deaths of mortal sacrifices. So God *created* the First Testament Law when He made His warning to Lucifer, and it went into *effect* when Lucifer slew the Lamb (**Re 13:8**). At that point the Law of sin and death became irrevocable. At that point two laws were in effect. The first is what the good angels remained under – the stressful and temporary pseudo law of the scepter of grace. I say pseudo law because it was temporary; it was not (yet) a Testament/Law. And the second law was the First Testament Law dedicated by the death of the Testator, which irrevocably damns anyone under it to death in the lake of fire.

It is important to understand what death is and what it isn't, because the distinction will help us understand the different types of law. The lake of fire teaches us that true death is *everlasting* torment – nothing else is real death. Real death *requires* everlasting life. Mortal "death" on the other hand is not real death, just as mortal "life" is not real life – as we saw in the chapter on *The Quick and the Dead*. That's why mortal death is referred to in the Bible as *sleep* (**Dt 31:16; Jb 14:12; Ps 13:3; Da 12:2; Lk 8:52,53; Jn 11:11-14; 1 Co 15:51; 1 Th 4:14**); mortals can be resurrected/awakened. But death in the lake of fire is never called sleep because nobody dozes off in the lake of fire and nobody is ever resurrected.

How was it possible for Lucifer to dedicate the First Testament by slaying the Testator/Lamb back at the foundation of the world? Didn't the Lamb have eternal life, and didn't mortality first show up later with Adam and Eve? Yes to both points. To understand the first point keep in mind that true death is living in torment forever and read **2 Sa 18:33; 19:1-4; Jn 8:58; Re 5:6**. We learn that God, as typified by King David, was deeply grieved by the rebellion and death of His beloved son, Lucifer. (If you understand the irrevocable finality of the First Testament Law that condemns Lucifer to death you'll understand how our omnipresent God already views Lucifer as dead.) And because God transcends time and space, even the past and future are always part of His present. Therefore, the hurt, pain, and anguish He felt as a result of Lucifer's murderous enmity and subsequent death sentence will, like the torment of the lake of fire, *never* fade for Him. You and I can have our hurt and tears wiped away, but God will always be present with the anguish of that awful betrayal. In other words, it is a mistake to view the slaying of the Lamb back in eternity as being like our mortal pseudo death; the death the Lamb *suffered* was *real* death – everlasting torment. That's why Re 5:6 shouldn't be read as, "stood a Lamb with its throat slashed" (as is sometimes pictured in books); it should be read as, "stood a Lamb with *tears* on his face in everlasting torment."

But, you ask, could that tearful kind of real and everlasting death, as opposed to a bloody kind of mortal death, satisfy the Biblical requirement for blood in places like **He 9:16,18**? Yes, for two reasons:

1. God says history repeats itself (**Ec 1:9,10**). With that in mind let's review what happened when the *Second* Testament was dedicated by the death of the Lamb of God on the cross: Christ was truly immortal God and truly mortal man, which is why He had **two different kinds of blood** (**1 Jn 5:6**). This fact was revealed to the world in **Jn 19:34**. The water in that verse was not stagnant blood that had settled into clear serum and blood like many ignorant people claim (you'd need a much longer period of time or a centrifuge for that), it was God's blood as mentioned in **Ac 20:28**. And we know God's blood is the water blood, not the red blood (D17-1). Now notice that *sorrow* is linked to *death* in **Mt 26:38**, and *agony* is linked to both *sweat* (water) and *blood* in **Lk 22:44**. This torment/death can only be eternal death if it occurs either a) in the lake of fire or b) in God for Whom all events are always in the present. Therefore when we apply Ec 1:9,10 to all of this we learn that the First Testament, like the Second Testament, was dedicated by the clear blood of the immortal Lamb when, in tormented pain caused by His beloved Lucifer's betrayal, He shed His water in the form of tears – just like the water He later shed in the garden of Gethsemane and on the cross. In this way both the First Testament and the Second Testament were made everlasting Laws by the death of the Testator and were dedicated with His immortal water/blood...which makes robes clean and white – not red (**Re 7:14**).

2. *Mortal* death, even Christ's, could not produce an everlasting Testament. And *mortal* blood, even Christ's, could not dedicate an everlasting Law. Therefore, the immortal water from the Lamb on the cross is what dedicated the Second Testament, and the red mortal blood from the Lamb on the cross is what dedicated the New Testament. (Yes, the New Testament is different from the Second Testament, just like the Old Testament is different from the First Testament.)

Understanding what real death is allows us to realize God didn't dream up the everlasting torment of the lake of fire; He just duplicated the everlasting pain Lucifer's sins (and our sins) are putting Him through forever. His love and His mercy are truly great.

When God created Adam and Eve He gave them a physical body that was of the earth, and He gave them a spirit body. We know they had spirit bodies because without them they wouldn't be His children (**He 12:9**), could not be subject to the law of God (**Ro 8:7**), could not please Him (**Ro 8:8**), and could not receive, know, or discern the things of God (**1 Co 2:10-12,14**). When Adam and Eve sinned something happened to their spirit bodies and something happened to their physical bodies. But before we get to that let's examine their sin, which is often loosely called "**original sin**".

Adam and Eve's original sin was deciding to eat the forbidden fruit, which infected them with the same leaven of equality Lucifer helped himself to. This leaven empowered their carnal minds, just as it had Lucifer's. This leaven of carnality then passed to all mankind, which is why we are all born with deceitful, desperately wicked hearts (**Je 17:9**). If God's people use their carnal Reason instead of discernment they will be blindly following Satan (like Peter, acting as Mrs. Satan, did in **Mt 16:22,23**). When we are carnal we are agreeing with Satan that the knowledge of good and evil is self-evident, and we are disagreeing with God that only He should set standards. We couldn't walk together with Satan except we agreed with him by having carnal minds, so "original sin" also makes us servants/wives of the Devil. Because carnality is so subtle and instinctive to those infected by its forbidden fruit, God blessed us with the curse of the pseudo law of **mortality** the day Adam ate the forbidden fruit. Mortality was to help us see – like a schoolmaster – that we had a problem only God could help us with. God

would later bless us again with the curse (**Ga 3:10-13**) of the Old Testament pseudo law in order to teach us – as if by a schoolmaster – the same lesson.

Lucifer sinned by exalting Himself to a position of *equality* with God (**Is 14:14; Ezek 28:2,6**). When he and his followers accepted the idea of equality it empowered their ability to think *on their own*, thus launching the first phase of the Age of Reason. By thinking on their own they were being carnal, which made them Natural enemies of God (Ro 8:8). Lucifer's sin included FORNICATION, because he caused one third of the angels to follow him. And when the blind follow the blind they both end up in the ditch. Thus the wicked angels were also damned by being put under the First Testament Law of sin and death.

Satan told Adam and Eve the truth in **Ge 3:5**; if they ate from the tree of *knowing* (rather than the *discerning* we, as servants, are supposed to do), they would become independent thinkers like the *impressively sophisticated* (but bad) sons of God. (All you have to do to lead a bunch of people astray is write a book that makes it look like you know what you're talking about. Fools, because it is easier to be welfare Christians who are spoon-fed their doctrine, will gladly take the easy path to destruction by accepting the word of man rather than work for their food through Bible study. I say again, *a man's relationship with the Bible is an exact picture of his relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.*) Adam and Eve blindly followed the blind and became carnal. And because their leaven/"original sin" has infected us, they are FORNICATORS who started the second – or human – phase of the Age of Reason. If we don't grow out of our inherited carnal minds via God's word, we shall also be blind followers who walk in darkness rather than light.

What Adam and Eve did, therefore, was *exactly* the same as what Lucifer did – history repeated itself. That made them, like it had the fallen angels, servants or wives of the Devil. That, plus the fact that Adam and Eve are conspicuously absent from **He 11**, very strongly suggests that, like Lucifer, their *spirit* bodies were damned/put away for the sin of FORNICATION by being put under the First Testament Law of sin and death.

Their *physical* bodies, though, were not spirit and could not be under the everlasting First Testament Law. But, as a type, picture, or schoolmaster-like reminder of the First Testament Law of sin and death, God put them under the temporary pseudo law of mortality, which He accomplished by denying them access to the tree of life. The curse of this pseudo law of mortality became our inheritance, so pseudo death passed to all mankind. Thus, mortality is a reminder of our inherited "original sin": Because we are supposed to avoid Reason and humbly *discern* the will of God, mortality was supposed to remind us, like a schoolmaster, that unless we figuratively died daily to our Natural carnal Reason and did the will of God, we'd be demonstrating a preference for our consummated husband over our espoused Husband, and be damned by being taken from under the stressful pseudo law of the scepter of grace and put under the Law of sin and death.

All people from Adam until the human race was divided were Christians. But all of Adam's descendants did not go to hell. Therefore, even though the pseudo law of mortality passed to all men in their physical bodies, the spirit body would only come under the Law of sin and death if the individual Christian had God's scepter of grace *withdrawn*. Mortal death is automatic, but whether or not we get the *second* death is up to us, and depends on which husband we please. We are *not* to concern ourselves with mortal death because it is just a pseudo law. The return from mortal death by Lazarus, Christ, and others in the Bible proves that "original sin's" resultant curse of death/mortality is a pseudo law, not an irrevocable Law. And the fact that we can be forgiven for our sins (like David with the shewbread) shows that the law of the written Old Testament (even in David's day) was a pseudo law.

Let's see if we can find evidence of the existence of the pseudo law of mortality in the Bible. Turn to **Ro 5**:

V.12 says, "When Adam sinned by eating the forbidden fruit, all men became *sinners* which made all men *die*." (This gets back to the question in the first paragraph of this chapter. Most denominations think the *death* that was inherited by all people as a result of Adam's sin is the *second* death – being put under the Law of sin and death, hell, and the lake of fire. Let's see if they are right.)

V.13: In a parenthetical aside we are asked to *think* (there's the rub!) about something: "Even before God gave us the law via Moses on Mt. Sinai, sin existed. But wait! How can that be? If the *law* didn't arrive until Moses, *sin* could not have existed before Moses!" (Because of Ro 4:15 and **1 Jn 3:4**).

V.14: "But everybody from Adam to Moses *died* – even though they didn't commit Adam's **Ge 2:17** transgression! Hmm, that means *some kind of law already existed* before the laws in the written Old Testament showed up!" (Because there could be no death unless sin existed, and there could be no sin unless some law created sin.)

Vv.17-19: These verses show that the curse we inherited from Adam is *mortal death*, the grave. Advocates of the **immortality of the soul** think the curse is the Law of sin and death (the lake of fire), not the law of mortality. If they were right, v.14 would mean the *second* death (the lake of fire) reigned over everybody from Adam to Moses – including Abel, Seth, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob! And, as we have seen, *nobody* who is put under the Law of sin and death escapes – ever. That is one of the reasons we know the curse of death we inherited from our father, Adam, is *mortal death* – *not* the *second* death. And that is supported by the use of the words *mortal*, *death*, and *grave* as synonyms in **1 Co 15:54,55**. Therefore, the fact that Old Testament saints like Abraham and Noah are *not* going to the lake of fire means the law with which they were cursed, the law that made them sinners who died, was neither the already-existing First Testament Law of damnation nor the not-yet-existing law of Moses. Ro 5 shows the as-yet-unwritten Old Testament did not make all of those people sinners; the inherited pseudo law of mortality did because the wages of their "original sin" was the grave.

Was the pseudo law of mortality also dedicated by the death and blood of the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world? No, because any law dedicated by God's immortal blood becomes an everlasting and irrevocable Law – like the First Testament Law of sin and death. The law of mortality is revealed to be a temporary pseudo law by the resurrections in the Bible. Therefore it, like all pseudo laws, had to have been dedicated by temporary mortal blood, and the implied deaths of the animals in **Ge 3:21** satisfied that legality very nicely.

I have called the written Old Testament a pseudo law, meaning it is temporary. Does that contradict the Old Testament itself in places like **Is 40:8** since the Old Testament is the eternal word of God? On the surface you could conclude it does, and many people will. But not when you realize the tabernacle, circumcision, the sacrifices, and the entire Testament itself were always meant to be *temporary* schoolmasters revealing other, eternal, truths. Once the truth was made manifest, it was needful that the schoolmaster decrease that the truth might increase. That is in no way contrary to the word of God; it's in accordance with God's word. But there is a more apparent proof that the written Old Testament is a pseudo law.

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Let me lead into the written Old Testament with this: If I build a house according to a blueprint, is the house the blueprint? No, the two are different even though they are related. The blueprint preceded the house, and the house was built *according to* the blueprint, but they are not the same.

Technically therefore, in **He 9:19** what Moses read to the people was not *the law*, because what he read was *according to* the law. *According to* means to make something agree, correspond, conform, or concur with something else. So the written law – called the Old Testament that Moses gave us – is a temporary pseudo law that is a type or picture of some other law that already existed before Moses went up Sinai. You could say this already-existing law that preceded the written Old Testament is the pseudo law of mortality referred to in Ro 5. That would make the pseudo law of the written Old Testament a type of the pseudo law of mortality that, in turn, is a type of the real First Testament Law of sin and death. Or you could say both pseudo laws are types of the First Testament Law of sin and death – take your pick. But the fact is the pseudo law of mortality was supposed to teach us some things, and the pseudo law of the Old Testament was another schoolmaster added because our transgressions continued. Therefore you can apply the *law* in **Ga 3:23-25** to both the temporary pseudo law of mortality and to the temporary pseudo law of the written Old Testament.

Let's examine some other reasons the pseudo law of the Old Testament is not a real Law in order to better understand why the Old Testament and the First Testament are different. These will help explain why Christians like David could wrongly break the pseudo law by committing adultery and murder, rightly break the pseudo law by eating the shewbread, and then escape the pseudo law by obtaining mercy. (This principle is the same one that allowed Lazarus to escape the clutches of the pseudo law of mortality.)

The first reason the written Old Testament is not a real Testament, and is not a real Law, and is in reality a pseudo testament, a pseudo law, is the fact that Jesus Christ did not dedicate it with His blood. The death of the testator is required in order for a testament to be in effect (He 9:16). Christ did not die for the written Old Testament and it was not dedicated with His blood – because He never intended for it to be Law.

The second reason the written Old Testament is a temporary pseudo law is it was dedicated with the deaths of calves and goats and sprinkled with their impure mortal blood (He 9:19).

The pseudo law of the written Old Testament is a type of the First Testament Law of sin and death. It is filled with laws that, if broken, could (but not necessarily *would*) lead to execution. Those laws are pseudo curses and are types of the real curse of the Law of sin and death. But remember, the message we were supposed to get from the Old Testament was not the letter of the law, but rather the schoolmaster or spirit of the law hidden between the lines. The true lesson of the Old Testament was *grace*. Grace requires us to have a merciful overview of the situation that combines a desire to obey the written pseudo laws God gave us with the knowledge that sometimes, like Christ, we'd have to take sin upon us, bear the infirmities of our weaker brethren by picking up sticks for the sick old widow on Saturday, feeding the shewbread to our hungry comrades, and helping our neighbor get his ass out of trouble on Saturday. In other words, our love for God would make us want to help the church because we know He loves it. Therefore in those instances when expediency would be better for the widow than letting her go without wood for warmth and cooking, we feel His love for her and present ourselves a living sacrifice by figuratively taking sin upon us and dying if necessary for the good of His loved ones. Grace involves all of that, and if you don't first love God you just won't get it. But, the reason I brought up grace is because grace and expediency are the true message of love in the written pseudo law of the Old Testament.

Because of the hidden message of love and grace in the Old Testament it should not be surprising to find hints in the Bible that the Old Testament is also a type of the New Testament. For example, the *water* that was mixed with the animal blood in He 9:19 proves those animals are types of the Lamb of God. But are they types of the Lamb whose "watery death" dedicated the First Testament back at the foundation of the world, or are they types of the Lamb on the cross? The first answer is obviously correct because the Old Testament is a curse just like the First Testament is a curse; so let's focus on the also correct second answer. Until the Lamb became the flesh-and-blood seed of Abraham (**He 2:14,16**) all He had was water – no red blood. Therefore the animals Moses used, which had water *and* blood (and hyssop – cp. He 9:19 & **Jn 19:29**), are types of the two-blooded Christ on the cross dedicating the New Testament. That's but another example showing that those who focus on the *laws* of the Old Testament are following in the footsteps of the Pharisees instead of learning the between-the-lines message of David and the Son of David: The Old Testament is a type of the New Testament – not just because the Old is faulty, but because the message of the Old is the *same* as that of the New.

Calling the Old Testament a pseudo law is a "kinder, gentler" term than those the New Testament uses: It says the Old Testament law was a "curse" (**Ga 3:13**), it was "carnal" (**He 7:16**), it was "weak and unprofitable" (**He 7:18**), it made "nothing perfect" (**He 7:19**), and it was *faulty* (**He 8:7**)! In addition, lest we mistakenly regard things that are carnal and faulty as if they were sacred, we are told that even things like the God-ordained "divine service", which included the sanctuary, the shewbread, the tabernacle, the holy of holies, the ark of the covenant, Aaron's rod, the tables of the Ten Commandments written by God Himself (**Ex 34:1**), the mercy seat, etc. (**He 9:1-5**), were, in fact, not "the way" (**He 9:8,9**)! That's why no matter how many times the sabbath was kept or how many times the high priest offered a sacrifice, etc., *they never satisfied the law* because they still had to be done again and again and again.

The law establishes sin and that leads to death. In other words, law demands death. The Law of the First Testament demands the lake of fire, and the law of mortality demands mortal death. You and I inherited sin from Adam, so our mortal deaths are not acceptable sacrifices because we are not pure. Christ's virgin birth severed the original sin connection to Adam, while Mary made Him truly human. Thus, His human, mortal, red blood was pure *and* He was a sinless and acceptable sacrifice Who could and would satisfy the law of mortality's demand for death. (The virgin birth didn't just make Christ uniquely sinless, it also made Him uniquely single, a bachelor, because, although He was truly human, He alone was not a bride of Satan. In that respect He is also uniquely male; He is looking for wives to serve Him, while we are looking for a Husband to serve.)

Because the literal Old Testament is a type of the law of mortality it was dedicated by the red "blood" in He 9:19. And because the Old Testament is also a type of both the Law of sin and death and the Law of grace it was dedicated by the "water" in He 9:19.

The Old Testament was flawed and temporary and needed to be replaced by the New Testament because neither the blood nor the water in He 9:19 was pure. How do we know it was flawed and without effect? Because what the sacrifices were supposed to do (**Ro 7:1,2**), they didn't do. The sacrifices were supposed to be substitutionary mortal deaths that satisfied the condemning demand for death by the law of mortality. They were supposed to take our sins with them. If the sacrifices had

worked, the Old Testament Christians would have been legally reckoned to be dead. That would have legally freed the saints from their consummated marriage to Satan and allowed them (when they died) to, in their spirit bodies, leave Satan's house, his kingdom, by passing through the boundary of the Deep in order to be with God in the Third Heaven. But not a single one of the sacrifices or the lawful rituals performed in accordance with God's pseudo laws of the Old Testament did anything! Because of that not a single one of the Old Testament saints was allowed to go be with God when he died; they all went to hell where all Christians who die in bondage to sin and the Devil go. Hell, though, is just a pseudo lake of fire; it is temporary, you can get out. For example, the Old Testament saints in the part of hell called **Abraham's bosom**, once Christ paid for their sins on the cross and legally freed them from bondage to the Devil, left hell and went with Christ up to the Third Heaven. And all the wicked in hell today will get out at Judgment – and then be thrown into the lake of fire.

The Old Testament cities of refuge were types of Abraham's bosom. And because the Old Testament sacrifices did not take away anybody's sin, the Old Testament saints were all sinners and murderers (**Ja 2:10,11**) in desperate need of a place of refuge – or they would go to the fiery side of hell when they died. There may have been some discussion in Abe's bosom over the centuries about how long they'd have to wait to be released. I'm sure some of them quoted **Nu 35:25,28** and wondered if that might have something to do with it. When Christ was crucified and descended into Abe's bosom, He probably included in His preaching/teaching (**Ep 4:8,9; 1 Pe 3:19**) the fact that He was their High Priest whose death liberated them from their captivity in this place of refuge. I'm sure His saints were again awed and delighted at the way He so wonderfully wrote His Book. By the way, Abraham's bosom is yet another proof that **Old Testament saints were Christian followers of Jesus Christ just as we New Testament saints are**: They were priests (**Ex 19:6**) like we are (**1 Pe 2:5,9**), and they were waiting to be saved (from their city of refuge, Abe's bosom) by the death on the cross of their High Priest, Whose death also freed us.

The Old Testament was dedicated with *both* animal blood and water. None of the animals was the Testator, none of them was an acceptable sacrifice, the blood wasn't pure, and the water wasn't really God's blood. But why did God make Moses dedicate the pseudo law of the Old Testament with *two* types of blood instead of one? After all, the Lamb slain at the foundation dedicated the First Testament Law of sin and death with only *one* kind – immortal blood/water. And again, when Adam and Eve sinned and were clothed by God, only *one* kind – mortal red blood – was used to dedicate the pseudo law of mortality. The Old Testament and the New Testament, however, were both dedicated with *two* types of blood. Two types of blood were required for them because each testament had two purposes. Let's work up to the explanation:

- When the immortal Lamb dedicated the First Testament *it was for, and applied only to, immortal spirit beings* because only spirit beings can live forever in the lake of fire. Since there was but a single purpose, only one type of blood suited that purpose – immortal water. Immortal water/blood is *required* for Laws and spirit beings.

- When the animals in the garden of Eden were used to dedicate the pseudo law of mortality, *the law was for, and applied only to, mortal physical beings* because only mortal physical beings have a temporary existence. Since there was only one purpose, a single type of blood suitable for that purpose was used – mortal red blood, which is *required* for temporary laws and mortal beings.

- When Moses dedicated the pseudo law of the Old Testament we must remember the law was a type of *two* things, the temporary pseudo law of mortality and the everlasting real Law of grace, which was later dedicated by Christ on the cross. Because the Old Testament was a type of the law of mortality, it required mortal red blood. (Therefore the part of the Old Testament dedicated by mortal red blood was the literal part with all of its laws and ceremonies. And the part of the saints the literal laws applied to was the old man. And if the old man was dead through Christ – like David – the saint was dead to the law.) Would it therefore be correct, because the Old Testament was also a type of the everlasting Law of grace revealed in the New Testament, for us to say immortal water/blood was required to dedicate the Old Testament? No, because the Old Testament was only a *type* of the New Testament and was only a *pseudo* law. Things that are not real and permanent cannot be dedicated with God's immortal water/blood. That's why God had Moses use plain water for the dedication – it was a *type* of the real thing. And because grace was *hidden* between the lines of the Old Testament, and because *flesh-and-blood mortals* cannot see or enter the spiritual Kingdom of God, this "grace" part of the Old Testament applied to the invisible new man, not to the old-man part of God's people. The pseudo, faulty shewbread law only applied to David's pseudo, faulty old man. And the old man is not, despite popular opinion, the temple of the Holy Ghost. The new man and only the new man is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is why **Mt 15:17-20** is true. The shewbread, cigarettes, pork, and greasy fast food do not defile the new man because they are consumed by the old man and are therefore, according to **1 Co 6:18**, *without* (outside of) *the* (new-man's) *body*.

Now we turn to the New Testament where we'll find it to be, as we'd expect, consistent with everything else God has done. There was always a need for the New Testament because there were a couple of problems that needed to be rectified. (Please note that things that are not permanent and real are not problems. Therefore the pseudo law of the written Old Testament was not a problem and the pseudo law of mortality was not a problem. The two problems addressed by the New Testament were real problems.) These two problems were solved with two kinds of blood.

Mortal red blood: God's people inherited the original sins of Adam and Eve. These sins made us Satan's consummated wives. That was the first problem. Thankfully, mortal death, even though it's not real, *can legally* be used to *reckon* us to be dead, thus making us *pseudo free* of our marriage to the Devil so we can be *legally* espoused to another Husband. The reason the mortal deaths and blood of the Old Testament animal sacrifices were not acceptable and didn't work was *not* because they were animals instead of humans. Because of **Ec 3:18,19** it didn't matter whether a sacrifice was animal or human. There were two important requirements for the sacrifice: First, it had to be mortal. The reason the unsaved were called *dogs* was because no animal has everlasting life – they are mortal. That's why Christ became a Lamb, an animal; it emphasized the fact that He was truly a mortal human – a beast (**Ec 3:18,19**) – who could die as a mortal sacrifice. The second requirement for the sacrifice was that it be *without blemish*, which ruled out all goats, sheep, animals, and humans. Except for Christ. This is one time history did not repeat itself in accordance with **Ec 1:9,10**, because up until the birth of Christ no woman had conceived a child without having a man contribute the fallen, sinful seed of Adam. The Bible told us in advance that Christ's virgin birth would be unique and *not* a repeat of history: And when you let the word *new* in **Ec 1:10** lead you to **Je 31:22** which is a reference to **Is 7:14**, we discover our truly mortal and truly sinless sacrifice Whose mortal death finally did what the Old Testament could never do – free us from bondage to Satan and espouse us to Christ, thus solving the first problem.

Christ's red blood was mortal blood, pseudo blood. Therefore it applied only to our mortal old-man pseudo body, and it applied only to the literal, written pseudo laws of the Bible. That's why we are only pseudo free of the Devil. And it's why we

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are only *reckoned* to be dead. Christ's sinless mortal death allowed Him to fulfill the requirements of both the law of mortality and the law of the written Old Testament, and allowed Him to say on the cross, "It is finished." That legally allowed His faithful saints to leave Abraham's bosom and go up to the Third Heaven. If we are faithful we, too, shall go to the Third Heaven when we die. Thus Christ's mortal death temporarily solved the problem of our bondage to Satan and allowed us to become His espoused brides.

At first, turning water into wine at Cana struck me as backwards. It would have seemed more fitting had Christ typified the resurrection by turning *wine* (bad blood that gives life to the flesh) into *water*. But when viewed from the perspective of a *wedding*, water into wine/mortal blood makes sense: We could not have wed Christ unless He became a red-blooded mortal Who could die in order to legally separate us from Satan so we could marry Another. The immortal Lamb with water in His veins *had* to become a mortal Lamb with red blood so He could die and free us from our first husband.

And that's also why Moses (type of Christ) turned the river *water* into *blood*. The Nile, which is called the lifeblood of Egypt (type of the world), is given added significance because it flows *north* (making it also a type of the pure river of water of life). In order to free us from Pharaoh (Satan), the god of this world, Moses (Christ) had to change the immortal lifeblood/water into red deathblood. Only then could Moses lead God's people out of the world, across the *Red Sea*, and into the Promised Land (type of Christ leading Old Testament saints out of their captivity in Abraham's bosom/hell, through the Deep, and into the Third Heaven).

Immortal water/blood: From the perspective of a saint (and the angels in heaven) the mere existence of the First Testament Law of sin and death is stressful because there is always the possibility that we might someday fall from grace. That is the second problem. Why is it possible for us to fall from grace? Because we faithful saints are not now and have never been under the Law of grace. In fact, no faithful saint in history *has ever been under either of the two true Laws*. Bad saints like Lucifer and Judas are now under the First Testament Law, and once under a Law there is no remedy. The good angels were originally under the temporary state of grace. When the Law of sin and death was created they moved under the stressful and conditional scepter of grace. And that's where we are today. We have never been under a Law. In order to make the First Testament an everlasting Law, the Lamb/Testator had to die and shed His water. The New Testament was dedicated by the mortal death and red blood of the Lamb/Testator and became a pseudo law because mortal anything is temporary. On the other hand, the Second Testament, which is revealed by the New Testament, in order to be an everlasting Law, had to be dedicated with the everlasting-torment-outside-the-lake-of-fire kind of death only God can suffer, and had to be dedicated with God's immortal water/blood. When Christ, in agony on the cross, cried out with **Mt 27:46**, it was the everlasting torment of a combination of 2 Sa 18:33 and **2 Ch 32:31b**. His watery death dedicated and made official, for the first time in history, the Second Testament, which is also called the Law of grace. Even though He shed His water/blood on the cross (and/or in the garden of Gethsemane), as of now absolutely nobody is under the Law of grace; we are all still under the stressful pseudo law of the scepter of grace.

Why are we not yet under the Law of grace? Or, to put it another way, why are we not yet under "eternal security"? Because we're still Satan's consummated wives! Consummation is permanent. Christ's mortal death only *legally* allows us to *reckon* ourselves to be dead and free of our bonds to Satan; in reality we're still alive. The good news is, if Christ wins the war, Satan goes to the lake of fire and dies. In the lake of fire he'll not just be *reckoned* to be dead, and he'll not just be pseudo dead (as in mortal death); he'll be really, permanently, and irrevocably dead under the Law of sin and death. That doesn't just make us *legally* free; it makes us happy widows who are *truly* free. When Satan and the Law of sin and death are sealed forever in the lake of fire we will no longer be under the scepter of grace and will, for a short time, be in the blissful-but-temporary state of grace. The state of grace will end when we attend the marriage supper of the Lamb and our union with Christ is consummated – something that could not happen until our first husband, Satan, died and made us widows. That marriage supper consummation is irrevocable, and *that* is when we finally come under the Second Testament Law of grace. No stress, no conditionality, no longer merely *espoused*, but finally *consummated* under an irrevocable Law for the first time, the Law of grace, the Second Testament of the Lamb that was dedicated with His death. **That is eternal security.**

But wait, couldn't uncertainty someday return? Since the Lamb died back at the foundation of the world to dedicate the First Testament Law, and later died again on the cross to dedicate the Second Testament Law of grace, what if He creates a Third Testament Law of some kind by dying again in the future? First, even if He did it wouldn't affect us because once we're under a true, irrevocable Law, we can never leave it. (That's why the Second Testament Law of grace cannot ever do Satan or Judas any good; they are already under the Law of sin and death.) And second, Christ will *never* die again (**Re 1:18**). Therefore no more Testaments. We have His word on it. And the bottom line is, by faith we accept, believe, obey, and live by His glorious word.

But what about the angels? If they were in the blissful state of grace back in the beginning and are now under the stressful scepter of grace, what will their position be in the future? **Re 22:9** indicates that the angels and we are all brethren serving God. We also know from **Job 1** that we're all sons of God. And it seems that we're all also His brides. For example, Lucifer fell from grace and was cast out, which is only possible for the cause of fornication, which explains the mysterious "from the beginning" in **Mt 19:8**. Another clue that the angels are espoused brides who are going through a trial period under the scepter of grace like we are is their fear that God might withdraw His extended scepter, which is implicit in the word *durst* in **Jude 9**. And another clue is **1 Co 11:10** which is related to **Es 1:16-22**. Since women are types of the church, if they have long hair it is a symbol, testimony, or witness to the angels that our women are obediently under *authority*. Men on the other hand, as types of Christ, are *not* to be symbols of servants with power over them. It looks like the angels are also living under the scepter of grace and trying to endure unto the consummation like we are.

Now that we have all that under our belts, let's get back to our question of the first paragraph: What law governed us New Testament saints before we became Christians? It was the law of Ge 2:17 that Adam violated. Adam's original sin made us carnal. The wages of eating the forbidden fruit is death. The forbidden fruit was carnality – knowing things on our own. Because of what carnality does (Ro 8:7), God removed us from His presence by making us mortal (**1 Co 15:50**). So, the actual law we broke was, *Don't be carnal/independent*. The physical manifestation or reminder of our inherited carnality is our mortality (Ro 5:14), and the solution to being carnal is to die to self daily (**1 Co 15:31; 2 Co 4:10,11; Ro 12:1,2**).

If we're now under the scepter of grace, by what law, if any, should we live? We should live as members of God's family, which requires us to live in accordance with four verses in the Bible: **Mk 12:30,31** and **1 Co 10:23,24**. In order to do that we should live, sleep, eat, and breathe the Bible. It is our daily bread and it is how we get to know what God wants and

how He thinks. The Old Testament is a necessary foundation because most of what God reveals about Himself is found there. The New Testament is the key to the Old Testament. It enables us to put it all together. The two complement each other perfectly.

Knowing and understanding the Bible enables us to walk circumspectly under the scepter of grace in accordance with the doctrine of expediency. Expediency means you do all you can to please God by obeying His Bible, literally. If you do that you'll be a good example for other Christians. You might even go through your whole life without having to exercise the "emergency authority" granted to you by expediency. Remember, whatever you do should please God and benefit His church.

Expediency requires you to know the Bible. Only in that way will you be able to avoid the ignorant mistakes of the slothful, and the tunnel-visioned mistakes of the Pharisees. Expediency requires daily Bible study. And it requires your head to be doing something while it sits up there on your shoulders. You need to look around and analyze everything in accordance with the Bible. Doing that is how you learn to rule your body, your family (if you are, contrary to the recommendations of the New Testament, married), the church, and ultimately, the world under Christ. If you don't practice the above you will never understand the authority and princely prerogatives of a leader as demonstrated by David when he fed the shewbread to the church, and by Esther, who broke the law by boldly approaching the throne, hoping to find mercy, grace, and help when the church was in need. That's *love*, brother! And that's the only law we're under. All the other laws are pseudo laws. They are to be kept because right now they're the only way we have to demonstrate our love for and obedience to God. And the concepts and principles behind those pseudo laws teach love for God and His people. That love, if real, will give you the understanding and strength Esther and David had.

This chapter has been written primarily around the various laws revealed in the Bible, and it shows how everything has been done in accordance with those laws. But I could just as easily have written this chapter around sex, marriage, fornication, espousal, divorce, and consummation. In fact, my understanding of them helped me later understand the laws in the Bible, which is why I put the marriage-related chapters earlier in this book.

The Bible is fascinating. And the more we understand it the more we love it. To know Him is to love Him.