

I. Are we a part of the crowd or are we **disciples** of Christ?

**John 6:60** Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is **a hard saying**; who can understand it?" **61** When Jesus knew in Himself that His **disciples complained** about this, He said to them, "Does this **offend** you?"

John 6:60-61

I. Are we a part of the crowd or are we **disciples** of Christ?

**John 6:64** But there are **some of you who do not believe**." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did **not believe**, and who would **betray** Him. **66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.** **67** Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?"

John 6:64, 66-67

I. Are we a part of the crowd or are we **disciples** of Christ?

1. Those in the **crowd** listened to the Word of God but went back to do their **own** thing!
2. **Disciples** sit at the feet of the Lord ready to do His **Word-Command!**

I. Are we a part of the crowd or are we **disciples** of Christ?

**Matthew 7:24** Therefore whoever **hears** these sayings of Mine, and **does** them, I will liken him to a **wise** man who **built his house on the rock**; **25** and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

Matthew 7:24-25

I. Are we a part of the crowd or are we **disciples** of Christ?

II. The Gospel of Salvation and the Gospel of the **Kingdom of God**.




1. John, the Baptist preached the **Kingdom of God**.



**John 3:1** In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, **2** and saying, "Repent, for the **kingdom of heaven** is at hand!"

John 3:1-2



2. The Lord Jesus came to preach the **Gospel** of the **Kingdom**.


**Matthew 4:23** And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the **gospel of the kingdom**, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.



3. The Church in recent history has emphasized the Gospel of Salvation to the almost exclusion of the **Kingdom** of God.

**Gospel of Salvation**


<i>John 3:16; 1:12; 5:24</i>	<i>Romans 10:9-10</i>
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4. Being born again is the **beginning** of our journey into the Kingdom of God.


**John 3:5** Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born of water and the Spirit**, he cannot **enter** the kingdom of God.

**John 3:3** Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born again**, he cannot **see** the kingdom of God."



5. Discipleship is about the **Lordship** of Christ over every area of our lives  
i.e. *we must be ruled by the King of the kingdom - the Lord Jesus.*

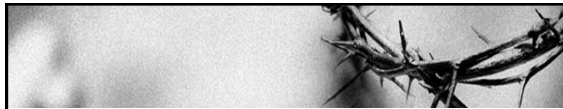
**Isaiah 6:5** So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen **the King, the Lord of hosts.**"



6. As we journey with the King of the kingdom, we will experience:

- A. **Righteousness**
- B. **Peace**
- C. **Joy** in the Holy Spirit.


**Romans 14:17** for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but **righteousness** and **peace** and **joy in the Holy Spirit.**



I. Are we a part of the crowd or are we disciples of Christ?


II. The Gospel of Salvation and the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

III. Law and Grace.



III. Law and Grace


***The Bottom Line***



1A. Legalism is when we are ruled by rules.


1B. Lawlessness is when we are ruled by "whatever" seems right in our own eyes without regard to the Laws of God.

**Judges 21:25** In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.



1C. Lawfulness is when we are ruled by God [to fulfill the spirit of the law] in our relationship with Him.

**Matthew 6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.




2. God gave us the law through Moses.

**John 1:17a** For the law was given through Moses ...


**Synonyms** [Psalm 19:7-9; 119]

Statutes	Laws	Commandments	Instructions
Principles	Teachings	Ordinances	Judgments
Testimonies			




3. The laws of God comprise **3 Broad Categories**:

- Law of Righteousness
- Moral Laws
- Laws and Principles of Life



C. Laws and Principles of **Life** comprise **everything** God gave to men to first live in **alignment**, so that He can release the **authority**, power, **freedom** and enjoyment as we do so.


In Marriage	Gravity	Tools	Machines	Music
Financial Laws	Vehicles	Knives	Health Laws	



C. Laws and Principles of **Life** comprise **everything** God gave to men to first live in **alignment**, so that He can release the **authority**, power, **freedom** and enjoyment as we do so.

**Genesis 8:22** While the earth remains, **seedtime and harvest**, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”


**Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man **sows**, that he will also **reap**.




4. The Lord Jesus came **not** to abolish the law of God but to **fulfill** it.

**Matthew 5:17** Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill..

**Romans 10:4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.




5. Grace does not **displace** the Law of God. This means that we too, are **subjected** to all the Moral Laws and Commandments of God.



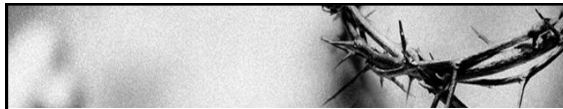
**Matthew 5:19** Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. **20** For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:19-20




**6A.** The law is **good**.

**6B.** The law is given to **tutor** us as to what is right and wrong.




6C. But the law is **powerless** to help us to obey it.  
The law cannot impart **righteousness** or **life**.

**Romans 3:20** Therefore **by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.



6C. But the law is **powerless** to help us to obey it.  
The law cannot impart **righteousness** or **life**.


**Galatians 3:19** What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed **[JC]** should come to whom the promise was made ...



6C. But the law is **powerless** to help us to obey it.  
The law cannot impart **righteousness** or **life**.

**Galatians 3:23** But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. **24** Therefore **the law was our tutor** to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. **25** But after faith has come, we are **no longer under a tutor**. **26** For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.


Galatians 3:23-26



7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.

A. **2 broad outcomes:**


- i. **Legalism** - *people became legalistic*
- ii. **Lawlessness**



7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.

B. We need the **Grace** of God to **know** and **obey** the truth accordingly.

**John 1:17b** ... but **grace and truth came through Jesus Christ**.





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B. We need the **Grace** of God to **know** and **obey** the truth accordingly.

**Ephesians 2:8** For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, **9** not of works, lest anyone should boast.


Ephesians 2:8-9

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7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.
- C. The better new **covenant** is based on better **promises** cut by the Blood of the **perfect** high priest in our Lord Jesus.


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**Hebrews 7:22** by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a **better covenant**.

**Hebrews 7:24** But He, because He continues forever, has an **unchangeable priesthood**.


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- C. The better new **covenant** is based on better **promises** cut by the Blood of the **perfect** high priest in our Lord Jesus.

**Hebrews 8:6** But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on **better promises**.




**Hebrews 8:7** For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. **8** Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

Hebrews 8:7-13



**Hebrews 8:9** not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the Lord. **10** For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: **I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.**

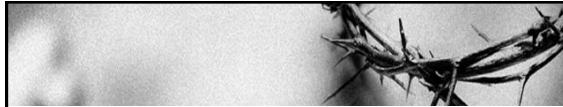
Hebrews 8:7-13



**Hebrews 8:11** None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' **for all shall know Me**, from the least of them to the greatest of them. **12** For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." **13** In that He says, "**A new covenant**," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Hebrews 8:7-13

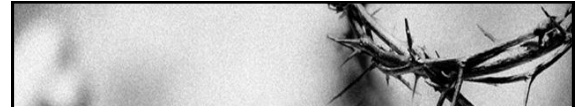




7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.

D. In the New Covenant, God gave us the **Holy Spirit** to instruct us as to right and wrong


i.e. He writes and puts His laws in our hearts and mind and **empower** us to obey Him.



7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.

E. When we obey the Holy Spirit, we automatically obey the **Laws of God**.


e.g. 1 - When we deal with **anger** and **bitterness** in our hearts, we will not physically murder.



7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.

E. When we obey the Holy Spirit, we automatically obey the **Laws of God**.


e.g. 2 - When we deal with **lust** in our hearts, we will not commit adultery.



7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.

E. When we obey the Holy Spirit, we automatically obey the **Laws of God**.


e.g. 3 - When we deal with **covetousness** in our hearts, we will not steal.



7. On our own, we will **never** be able to fulfill the Laws and Commandments of God.


F. For us, NT believers, we move from

- i. Being tutored or ruled by the **law** to
- ii. Being tutored - ruled - led by and empowered by the **Holy Spirit**.




**Galatians 5:16** I say then: **Walk in the Spirit**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. **17** For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. **18** But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are **not under the law**. **19** Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

Galatians 5:16-25




**Galatians 5:20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **21** envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. **22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Galatians 5:16-25




**Galatians 5:23** gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. **24** And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we **live in the Spirit**, let us also **walk in the Spirit**.

Galatians 5:16-25



**Galatians 5:18** But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are **not under the law**.

**Romans 6:14** For **sin shall not have dominion over you**, for you are **not under law but under grace**.




**Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. **2** For the **law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** has made me **free from the law of sin and death**. Romans 8:1-2

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



**CONCLUSION**

The Lord is looking for **Disciples**  
(Relationship and walk by the Spirit)



**CONCLUSION**

**Isaiah 50:4** The Lord God has given Me the **tongue of disciples**, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. **He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple**. **5** The Lord God has **opened My ear**; and I was **not disobedient nor did I turn back**. (NASB) Isaiah 50:4-5

<i>Romans 8:5-6</i>	<i>2 Peter 1:2-4</i>
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**CONCLUSION**

The Lord is also looking for  
**Disciple-Makers**

Matthew 28:18-20