

Greater Freedom in Christ in One Month!

Radical New Covenant Bible Studies

*Biblical Truth Based Upon Our Firm Foundation
of Salvation and Righteousness in Christ Alone –
Eradicating Doubt, Fear and Worry.*

*And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten,
saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the
new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20 NAS*

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About the Author

Raised in a Christian home, I walked away at the age of 18 to live like the prodigal son. Years later, I came back to Christ through the back door of Alcoholics Anonymous in the early 1990's. I soon started sharing my faith in various ways, eventually using the good person test, which incorporates the Ten Commandments. Through the years, I have utilized the good person test to share my faith with thousands of people, gaining an intimate knowledge of the purpose of God's Old Covenant letter of the law. To this day, I still use God's letter of the law for its intended purpose: to break the hearts of the hard hearted while showing the lost their need for the Savior. When the hard heart is broken, I present the gospel.

However, after sharing my faith with many, I still had a degree of doubt about Christianity. After asking God for help in prayer, I was led to investigate natural revelations for God's existence that proved God's existence and identity to me beyond a reasonable doubt. I became involved in apologetics and learned to dig into my objections and discover there were always reasonable answers. The more I studied the objective evidence, the more I realized that I needed less faith to believe, yet, at the same time, my faith became greater.

I later published a book that held the heart of what I wanted the lost to at least consider – Gravity: True For You But Not For Me. Gravity combines the objective

evidence for God's existence and identity with the use of God's law to show an unbeliever their desperate need for Christ. God has used Gravity to bring many to Christ and renew the faith of numerous others. God has placed it in over 1,300 prisons, handed it out through college ministries on campuses, and circulated it around the world. Gravity is currently being translated into numerous languages.

After many years as a believer, my faith was on a firm foundation, but I was burned out to a certain degree, often struggling with doubt, fear, worry, guilt and condemnation. I came to a point where God impressed upon me that I was also starting to lean in the direction of a Pharisee, judging others for not sharing their faith, among other things.

Praying for help again, God led me to focus solely on the New Covenant Jesus ratified for us when He shed His blood on the cross. I soon realized that for years I had been mixing the New and Old Covenants, subtly mixing grace with the law, making grace of no effect according to [Galatians 5:4](#). I now understand this was robbing the power of God and the gospel from my life. I noticed that virtually every church I attended unwittingly mixed these two covenants as though they were one, which they are not. I thank God for teachers who are willing to preach abundant grace without fear, just like the Apostle Paul: teachers like Joseph Prince, Andrew Womack and Andrew Farley, to name a few.

I learned that the New Covenant of grace and truth that came through Jesus was God's full replacement for the Old Covenant of law given through Moses (see [John 1:17](#)). I learned that, as believers, we are no longer under the letter of the law, but under grace, where sin is not imputed. [Second Corinthians 3:6](#) tells us that we are also called and qualified to minister by the Spirit that brings life and not the letter of the law that brings death.

Over time, I renewed my mind to the truth of the New Covenant alone. This was not without a battle. For quite a while, Satan had me convinced that if I let go fully of the law and embraced grace alone, I would fall deeply into sin. He made me believe that I had to fight off sin to remain saved when in truth we are called to rest in Jesus's finished work that has already saved us. At the very last, it felt like I was hanging onto the law by my fingernails, as though on the edge of a cliff with the deep abyss below.

When I finally let go of the law, I never fell headlong into sin as the enemy had suggested. I fell into the hands of God and found myself free from doubt, guilt, shame, fear and worry. Over time, I saw how grace produced the fruits of the Spirit in my life that overcame and replaced sin. The battle is won as I keep my daily focus completely on the truth in the New Covenant and Jesus's finished work. I also quickly learned that Satan was not going to give up easily. God taught me how to properly divide the Word and that I must be careful what I listen to.

I have become highly aware that I can hear a mixture of the two covenants, to some degree, in virtually every church I visit. I appreciate, read and learn from the Old Covenant for its wealth of information and shadows of Christ. But I have now established my mind and thoughts fully in the New Covenant Jesus died to bring us. I – my mind and thoughts - am firmly established in His righteousness and great love for me. Most of the time, I walk in His peace that surpasses all understanding even in tough circumstances. My focus on His love and righteousness has led me to view many scriptures with clarity, bringing revelations I could not see when I was mixing the two covenants.

The New Covenant is where the Promised Land is for a believer. It is the true freedom God wants us to have in this life.

Michael Edwards

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Introduction to my New Covenant Bible Studies

The purpose of these New Covenant Bible studies is to encourage the believer and remove all doubt from their heart of their Father's love for them and their complete and total forgiveness in Christ. Jesus often said, "Oh, you of little faith." God desires that we live from faith to faith for our benefit, with no doubt, fear, worry or anxiety in between. It is only Satan who wants believers to doubt God's love and complete and total forgiveness toward those who believe. He knows that if we doubt God's forgiveness for our past, present, and future sins even a little, we will doubt God's love for us. This will lead us to live in insecurity that manifests itself in acts of sin and the inability to love others as God loves us. We cannot love much and walk by the Spirit until we know for certain we have been forgiven totally ([Luke 7:47](#)). If we live in doubt, Satan wins in this life because he knows that love is the only thing that fulfills God's law ([Rom 13:8-10](#)).

The truth is there is absolutely no condemnation under the New Covenant of grace and truth Jesus's blood was shed to bring. If you are walking in fear, guilt, worry, repetitive sin or condemnation, you are displaying symptoms of unbelief to parts of the message of His righteousness and grace. There is also the possibility that you have been deceived by the enemy into subtly adding the Old Covenant letter of the law to grace, as I had done. Christians are under grace ([Rom 6:14](#)) and qualified to minister the Spirit of the law that brings life, not the letter that brings death ([2 Cor 3:6](#)). Even a little leaven -- a minute amount of law -- added to grace makes grace of no effect.

While you may protest and claim you are not under the letter of the law, I have come to realize that symptoms do not lie. Do you fear punishment from God if you fail? Are you walking in the victory Jesus died to give you? Are you reigning in life like the Bible teaches you should be? Do you reside in Jesus's peace that overcomes all circumstances, or are your feelings up and down based on your circumstances? Incorrectly believing we are still under the letter of the law is what brings sin consciousness ([Rom 3:20](#)) and condemnation. This leads to doubt about our salvation, because if we believe we are under the law, we believe at least subconsciously that we must keep the law to be saved in addition to trusting Jesus. Just a little doubt opens the door for the enemy's attacks and falsely places the burden of our salvation upon us in our thoughts and minds. This naturally leads to worry and fear. We know intuitively that we cannot keep God's perfect standard in thought, word and deed. The letter of the law leads us to be self and sin focused, while the Bible teaches we are supposed to lose our life in Christ ([Matthew 10:39](#)). God's way of stopping the acts of sin we still see in our life, has nothing to do with focusing on the law.

The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit convicts us as believers of our complete righteousness in Christ alone ([John 16:10](#)). We are called to agree with the Holy Spirit to

take captive our minds and thoughts to the obedience of Christ. . . We are to be conscious of His finished work, His obedience on the cross and our righteousness in Christ always. This is how we live from faith to faith and walk in the Spirit, in His peace, in victory.

Once you are firmly established in the gospel truth of God's great love for you and your righteousness in Christ, you will begin to naturally display the fruits of the Spirit which are peace, joy, patience, self-control, brotherly love and more. These fruits will naturally replace the sin, including doubt, worry and fear, you still see in your life.

Restlessness will leave your life and the peace of Christ will rest upon you in all circumstances. His peace will lead you to sin far less and serve God out of love and gratitude instead of guilt, without effort.

This is not a difficult process; it comes down to believing God our Father as a little child trusts a loving parent, with childlike faith. Jesus did not die to see if you can qualify to get into heaven; he fully qualified you. God does not lie. If you believe Jesus is Lord and have placed your faith in Him the best you can, even if your faith is far from perfect, you have been saved and have become a co-heir with Christ, qualified to participate in the inheritance of the saints ([Col 1:12](#)). God is faithful and keeps His promises. Do not doubt, this is how God sees a believer, in Christ, in the Spirit.

I accept that in Christ I am:

Greatly loved by God - [Ephesians 2:4](#)

Forgiven of all my sins - [Ephesians 1:7](#)

Free from the law of sin and death - [Romans 8:2](#)

Righteous - [Rom 5:19](#)

Complete - [Colossians 2:10 NAS](#)

Justified - [1 Corinthians 6:11](#)

Sanctified - [Hebrews 10:10 NAS](#)

Holy and without blame - [Ephesians 1:4](#)

Perfect - [Hebrews 10:14 NAS](#)

The enemy tries to create doubt and unbelief about the truths in the above verses, just like he created doubt in Adam and Eve, which leads to sin. Doubting God's love and our total forgiveness is what leads to sin in our lives. On the other hand, being firmly established in God's love, total forgiveness and His righteousness in our minds and thoughts is what stops sin, replacing it with the fruits of the Spirit. Satan will try to get us to doubt by pitting less clear scriptures against very clear ones like [John 3:16](#) which tells us *we HAVE eternal life by believing*. The enemy often does this by enlisting well-meaning believers who are filled with doubt and fear themselves to spread doubt and fear to others. The truth is, some scriptures simply require more study in context to understand. God's word is not divided against itself causing confusion, uncertainty, doubt or fear. Many of these studies explore those tough scriptures that Satan may be using to create doubt and fear in you.

There are two main covenants in the Bible: The Old and the New. Rightly dividing these covenants as a believer is paramount to reigning in this life. They must not be mixed. To understand the Bible, a person must also know the intent and the heart of the author, and we see our Father's intent and heart clearly in Jesus's life and actions. Jesus is

the exact image of our heavenly Father. Your heavenly Father is for you and you will learn from scripture that He loves you as much as He loves Jesus. Everything He did was out of love for us: even the intent, the spirit, of all of God's laws is love, as you will learn from the scriptures in these lessons.

These studies will lead a person down the Biblical path manifesting the fruits of the Spirit, which are necessary to defeat and replace sin, including deep-rooted, reoccurring sin. They lead to His righteousness and His peace that overcomes all circumstances. Once you are firmly established, unshakeable and unmovable in His love, righteousness, and peace, start expecting joy because it is coming and will naturally take root in your heart and mind. This is when you know intimately that His perfect love has cast out all of your fear.

Renew Your Mind

We are called to believe God's Word, renewing our minds to the message of truth and grace in the New Covenant for which Jesus shed His blood. Once you renew your mind and correct your core beliefs to align with God's truth, all other false beliefs built upon the false core will naturally fall away.

For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. John 1:17 NAS

And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for we is the new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20 NAS

Under the Old Covenant, fear of punishment is what kept a person from sinning, but it failed due to the weakness of man. Under the New Covenant, the love of Christ compels us to love while the knowledge of the truth and God's grace teaches us to live a Godly life. [2 Cor 5:14](#), [Titus 2:12](#)

We all know how weeds can take over a garden with no tending. Think of your mind as a garden that needs tending and renewal, or the weeds will take over. In this case, you do not focus on pulling weeds; you just need to start planting the right crop. You need to seed your mind and heart daily with thoughts of your right standing in Christ with God. When the Bible tells us to take our thoughts captive to Christ's obedience, it is speaking of all our thoughts, good and bad. Therefore, we captivate our mind and thoughts to the finished work of Christ and our identity in Him. I guarantee the fruits of the Spirit will grow and choke out the weeds, allowing peace, patience, joy, and others to take over. This needs to be your priority because, at the slightest opportunity, the enemy will try to steal the good seed and plant weeds that will quickly take root. We need to keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, at all times.

Believers are no longer under the letter of the law, but under grace where sin is not counted or imputed by God to the believer.

"...that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation." 2 Cor 5:19

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

"For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression," Rom 4:15

"...sin is not counted where there is no law." Rom 5:13

... "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Heb 10:17

Believers should not sin just because God is not imputing sin to our account: holding it against us.

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Romans 6:15

This book offers thirty-one of the more than 150 New Covenant Bible studies I have written. Most of the thirty-one studies offer access to additional supporting studies. Some of the studies are short, while others are more extensive. I challenge you to get your Bible out and focus solely on these New Covenant studies for the next month and see your doubts, worry, and fear washed away, your mind renewed, and your life and faith greatly improved as the fruits of the Spirit begin to sprout in your life. All the studies are supported heavily by scripture and will remove any questions about your salvation and righteousness in Christ alone. The truth in the New Covenant will build up your faith, produce the fruits of the Spirit that will naturally replace sin and give you the radical freedom Jesus's perfect sacrifice is designed to give us.

You should also do an in-depth study of the book of Hebrews, which contains the Bible's clearest revelation of the New Covenant.

Jesus poured out His blood for the New Covenant of grace and truth, fully replacing the Old Covenant law of Moses. Believers are exclusively under the New Covenant, the last will and testament of Jesus that began after the cross.

And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for we is the new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20 NAS

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1 - The New Covenant of Grace and Truth Replaced the Old Covenant

Law of Moses

There are two major covenants in the Bible, Old and New. The Old was based on the law and man's performance. The new is based on grace and in it, God deals with man based on God's promises and our faith in Jesus's finished work on the cross. Study the New Covenant and realize for yourself that God states:

“For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” Jer 31:34b

“For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.” Heb 8:12

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Heb 10:17

Make sure you are not trying to mix the New and Old Covenant. They are drastically different and are not meant to be mixed. The New completely replaced the Old.

In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. Hebrews 8:13

The book of Hebrews goes into detail explaining how we are no longer under the Old Covenant but instead under the New. God tells us that He found fault with the Old Covenant and that it has been replaced by a better covenant.

*But as it is, **Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old** as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. **For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.** For he finds fault with them when he says: **“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.” **In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.** Hebrews 8:6-13 NAS*

Paul, the former Pharisee of the Pharisees, a man with great understanding and respect for God's law, understood we are completely under the New Covenant of grace and truth and not the old covenant of law brought by Moses nor a mixture of the two. In the book of Galatians, Paul rebukes the Galatians for abandoning the gospel of grace he preached to them. They had been deceived into mixing the Old and New Covenant and Paul states this is not the Gospel he preached. Paul warns us that mixing law with grace makes grace of no effect, cutting us off from Christ. The gospel is the gospel of grace, not grace plus even a leaven of law. God's power to stop sin and transform lives is found in the grace of Christ alone.

You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. Gal 5:4 NAS

Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. Gal 5:4 KJV

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace. Rom 11:6 NAS

Legalistic Jews had slipped in and deceived the Galatians by saying they must believe in Jesus, but also must add to it and keep the law of Moses to be saved. Paul and the other apostles destroy this lie in [Acts 15](#). Today, we still hear this deception in veiled ways. For many years I unknowingly lived with one foot in the Old and one in the New Covenant. The sad part is that the Old Covenant keeps man's eyes on himself and his performance (self-conscious), which leads man into condemnation in his thoughts. The new covenant keeps man's eyes focused on Jesus (Christ conscious) and His finished work on the cross.

The truth is that if you are **in Christ (accepted Jesus as Savior)**, you have satisfied the law of Moses in Christ and are thus walking in the Spirit. You have moved into worshipping God in Spirit and Truth. By acknowledging your need for a Savior, you agreed that God's law is holy, just and right, and recognized you could never uphold it to God's perfect standard. Your actions uphold the validity of God's law over your life. The very fact that you cried out for Jesus means you want to obey God and admit you cannot. The New Covenant is about believing and trusting God. We cannot add to Jesus's finished work with our works. We cannot perfect ourselves by the flesh.

You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Gal 3:1-4 NAS

Here is a great example of what I am talking about. Like me, maybe you have struggled with producing the following attributes listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7

*"For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with **virtue**, and virtue with **knowledge**, and knowledge with **self-control**, and **self-control** with **steadfastness**, and **steadfastness** with **godliness**, and **godliness** with **brotherly affection**, and **brotherly affection** with **love**."*

Do you know why the Bible says you do not have these?

*"For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, **having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins**." 2 Peter 1:9*

In other words, if we forget we are forgiven, we will not act like we are. The truth is you have been completely forgiven and this goes hand and hand with how much God loves you. However, if you still think you are under the law, or if you mix even a leaven of law with grace, you will live under the condemnation in your mind that Satan desires. You need to soak daily in the truth found in the New Covenant, eliminating all false beliefs planted by Satan.

Another way to look at a believer's situation is that the law of Moses required the law be kept or an acceptable sacrifice be paid if it was not. The acceptable sacrifice option was part of the law. In the Old Testament, the priest did not examine the sinner who brought the lamb: he examined the lamb. If it was acceptable, the sinner went home free.

It is the same here: God already knows you have fallen short. The sacrifice you brought was the Lamb of God, Jesus Himself. Your offering was more than acceptable. Your sins are forgiven, and you are free. It would be similar to being charged with a crime today and finding out you needed to either pay the fine or go to jail. If you could afford it, you would pay the fine and go free because in that payment, the law would be satisfied.

As believers, we realized we were lawbreakers and on our own could never pay the required fine. Therefore, we brought an acceptable payment/sacrifice that God himself provided (just like he provided the sacrifice for Abraham) when we accepted Jesus and His FINISHED work on the cross. Thus, we satisfied the law of Moses in Christ. You are loved by God, forgiven, redeemed, righteous, sanctified, holy and blessed. You will never come under His condemnation ([John 3:18](#), [Rom 8:1](#)). Do not doubt God as Eve did: just believe. If you have accepted Jesus, you are already in the Spirit. Just like you needed to learn to walk when you were a baby, you are now learning to walk in in the Spirit by the spirit of the law, not the letter. The Bible is very clear that the spirit of all of God's written laws is love. The spirit of a law is the reason the author wrote it in the first place. The Spirit is the only thing that can truly fulfill the author's desire. Love is the only thing that fulfills God's law and His desire for us.

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Rom 3:8-10 NAS

For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Gal 5:14 NAS

Therefore, God has qualified us to be ministers of the spirit and not the letter.

And He has qualified us as ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Cor 3:6 BSB

Look at how the Apostle Paul presented the gospel. This is really Good News! We should do the same. Jesus came to earth on an all-out rescue mission. He did not pull you into the life raft to toss you out later.

*"From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, **who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.** Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. [don't reject Jesus] For he says, In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you. Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor 5:16-21; 6:1-2*

The Bible states we are in a spiritual battle. The enemy will try to get you to fear as you let go completely of trusting in your own ability to keep the letter of the law and works, instead fully trusting God to keep you walking more exclusively in God's grace from faith to faith. The argument he may try to present to you directly or through other believers is that too much grace will lead you to sin. This is the same accusation that was leveled at the Apostle Paul a number of times ([Rom 3:8](#), [6:1](#), [6:15](#)), leading him to strongly defend salvation by grace alone through faith alone.

Scripture tells us grace leading to sin is a faulty argument, but since we are so accustomed to living under a combination of law and grace, you may be tempted to believe it. You may need to ask yourself, "What is my motivation for wanting to walk completely in God's grace?" I would bet that your motivation is not to be able to sin freely. If it is, then I would suggest that you are not born again and need to first accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Personally, my motivation was to live and walk in the freedom Christ died to give me and to be a better example to others of the love of Christ. As I studied, I realized how much of my life Satan has stolen from me over the years. I can tell you from personal experience that relying totally on God's grace does not lead a born-again person to sin more. The Bible teaches just the opposite.

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

Sin will have no dominion over you specifically because you are under grace and not the law. This also tells us that sin will have dominion over those who are under the law. According to Paul, the law brought a desire within us to sin. *"But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power."* ([Romans 7:8](#)) Paul states that apart from the law, sin has no power. A full realization of God's unconditional love and grace will lead you to lose the desire to do some things you have done in the past, things that may have haunted and condemned you for years. This change of heart and mind is true repentance due to the love and kindness of God. God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance ([Romans 2:4b](#)).

When you truly realize how much God loves you and that you have been totally forgiven, sin will lose its luster and you will desire on your own to please your Father. This is exactly what we as earthly parents want from our children: to do the right thing of their own choice, not because they fear our punishment. It is not our desire to punish our children. Our Father in heaven is no different in this regard. *"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* ([Romans 5:8](#)). God took our punishment upon Himself. Praise God! The best way to counteract Satan's attack is to learn the truth: you are no longer under the Old Covenant, the law which includes the Ten Commandments. You are under grace. This can be learned by studying and renewing your mind with the New Covenant and understanding that it fully (not partially) replaced the Old Covenant.

If you have placed your faith in Jesus, He shed His blood to bring you the New Covenant that has replaced the old. If you still live in the old or a mixture of the two, you are in essence rejecting the New Covenant Jesus died to bring you. God did not bring a message that will increase sin in the world when He placed you exclusively under grace. Trust God and let Him hold you up. Learn about and walk in the New Covenant and walk in His victory in this life.

And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20 NAS

Worship: [What A Beautiful Name - Hillsong Worship](#)

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[If Sin Has Dominion in Your Life, You are Living Under the Law, Not Grace](#)

[How Grace Defeated Sin in My Life](#)

[Misconceptions About Not Being Under the Law as a Christian](#)

[Love is a Much Higher Standard than the Letter of the Law](#)

* * *

2 - If You Believe, You Have Been Saved

Like the Apostle Paul, I am against all sin.

*What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace?
By no means! Romans 6:15*

*Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and
there is no other. Isa 45:22*

Don't let those who insist on pointing to unclear Bible verses rob you of the truth and peace that is clearly presented from the lips of Jesus and in numerous Bible verses. Getting saved is very easy, but it was not cheap. God gave His only begotten Son for it.

1) God meant what He said and was very clear with His message to Adam: "If you eat you die."

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." Gen 2:17

Adam and Eve chose to doubt and believe Satan's deception over God's very clear words.

But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die." Gen 3:4

Their doubt and unbelief in God's *very clear words* led them to place their faith in themselves, their ability to make this important decision over God's ability to do so. Their faith in their own ability led them to make the wrong decision and do the *one thing* God warned them not to do.

2) Likewise, Jesus meant what He said and was very clear with His message to us: "everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life." In other words, if you believe, you live.

For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” John 6:40

Right now, Satan is hard at work trying to get you to doubt God's very clear words just like Adam did, and choose not to believe.

The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Luke 8:12

Satan knows that unbelief will lead you to place your faith in your own ability and make the wrong decision.

God desires that you simply believe, like a little child, his *very clear words* and let your faith in Him lead you to do the one thing He desires: believe in and trust Jesus as your Lord and Savior and be saved.

Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe." John 20:27 BSB

3) Jesus Came to Rescue Us - to Save Us from Our Inherited Sin Nature. You Need to Be Born Again as Jesus States Clearly in John 3:3

For as by the one man's (Adam) disobedience the many were made sinners. Rom 5:19a

*Who gave Himself for our sins so that He might **rescue us** from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. Gal 1:4 NAS*

For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. Matt 18:11 NAS

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 1 Tim 1:15

I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. John 10:9

If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. John 12:47

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

4) We are saved when we believe, just like the 3,000 who were saved the very day they believed in the book of Acts.

*So by the one man's [Jesus] obedience the many **will be made righteous** Rom 5:19b*

And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who

received his word were baptized, and there were added that day [saved] about three thousand souls. Acts 2:40-41

And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:47b

*But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows **that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.** For the Scripture says, “**WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.**” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; **for “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.**” Rom 10:6a, 9-13 NAS*

God saved you by his grace when you believed. *And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Eph 2:8 NLT*

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. Eph 1:11-14

5) Don't Doubt Like Adam - Just Take God at His Word. If You Believe, You are Saved

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned. John 3:16-18a

He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5

Even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— Eph 2:5

For in this hope we were saved. Rom 8:24a

For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Rom 10:13

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved Acts 2:21

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

He will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household' Acts 11:14

But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will. Acts 15:11

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." Acts 16:31

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God Rom 5:9

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Rom 5:10

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Cor 1:18

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. 1 Cor 1:21

If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. 1 Cor 3:15

By which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. 1 Cor 15:2

Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began. 2 Tim 1:9

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. Heb 7:25

Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. James 1:21

6) Jesus never said, *oh you of little holiness or Oh you of little law keeping*. But, he did say over and over again, "Oh you of little faith, why do you still doubt?" and "stop doubting and believe." When He returns, *faith in His promises* is what He is seeking. Do you believe God?

I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth? Luke 18:8

7) Those who doubt God are ignoring God's warning and thus committing the same sin of unbelief that Adam committed. The only unforgivable sin is unbelief. Don't remain under condemnation. Flee to Jesus for safety for the coming day when God will judge the world in righteousness. You can be made right with God today in Christ.

Because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man (Jesus) whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead. Acts 17:31

But whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. John 3:18b

Worship: [Corey Voss - I Got Saved \(Official Live Video\)](#)

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* * *

3 - Leave the Burden on God

If I make you a promise, what can you do to make sure I keep it? Nothing. The burden is always on the one making the promise. Either they are telling the truth and capable of keeping their word, or they are telling a lie, unfaithful to their own words, and perhaps incapable of keeping the promise. If we decide to take a person at their word, to believe what they say, the only thing we can do is trust they will follow through. The burden is theirs.

Many followers of Christ insist that we must keep the law; that God demands change and man's works of righteousness to keep His promise. In other words, they treat God's promise as a conditional promise. However, the only condition Jesus put on us was to believe.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God." John 3:16-18

In treating Jesus's promise as conditional, adding works, many sincere believers have taken a burden upon themselves that is not theirs. Instead of believing the truth that Jesus has fully qualified us and made us righteous, in error they live like Jesus only finished a portion of the necessary work and is still watching to see if we qualify for salvation.

*Giving thanks to the Father, **WHO HAS QUALIFIED YOU** to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:12-13*

The law demanded righteousness from bankrupt humanity. Grace provides righteous.

They have mixed the Old Covenant -- which man could never fulfill because it demanded he keep the law to be righteous -- with the New Covenant of grace that provides righteousness to bankrupt humanity. Under the Old Covenant, God's blessings were based upon man's ability to be righteous of his own accord. If he failed at any point, just one time, one sin, the law brought a curse upon him. Under the New Covenant, Jesus shed His righteous blood for us, so we could become the righteousness of God in Christ.

We cannot be any more righteous (right with God) than we are right now by the blood of Jesus.

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

Who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. Rom 4:25

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor 5:21

Jesus took the demands the law had put upon us and the curse for our failure when He became a curse for us on the cross.

For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. Gal 3:10-14

God's Promise

When someone makes you a promise, what assures you will believe their promise and be confident it will be fulfilled? Is it not the character and the ability of the person making the promise? In this case, we have a promise maker who cannot lie and is all powerful.

God cannot lie.

In the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago. Titus 1:2 NAS

God is all-powerful, fully capable of honoring His Word.

Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and Spirit to those who walk in it. Isa 42:5

We have a promise maker who cannot deny His own nature.

*If we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself. 2
Tim 2:13*

We have a promise maker who is faithful to His word, even if we are unfaithful.

What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? By no means! Rom 3:3-4a

These truths allow all who take God at His word to rest peacefully by faith in His promise.

For we who have believed enter that rest... Heb 4:3a

Think of this - Jesus is the Word. Do you for one moment think the Father would be unfaithful to what the Word, Jesus, has accomplished?

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

If our righteousness was based upon what we do, God could never make the following promise. This promise can only be made because our righteousness is from God who qualifies us, a gift we receive by faith.

*No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, **and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.** Isa 54:17 KJV*

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies [makes righteous]. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died— more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Rom 8:33-34 (emphasis mine)

We have the very best promise maker possible: one whose nature is love, who cannot lie and is all powerful. Leave the burden where it belongs, with the promise maker, and enter God's rest found only in Jesus Christ our savior.

Here is one more promise for you. The question is, do you believe it? ... **"It is finished,"** ... John 19:30

Worship: [God of the Promise | Live | Elevation Worship](#)

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[Stop Disqualifying Yourself](#)

[Law Demands Righteousness; Grace Provides Righteousness](#)

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[4 - Did Jesus's Sacrifice Provide Forgiveness for Our Future Sins Too?](#)

[Yes](#)

We had better hope God can forgive future sins because Jesus died over 2,000 years ago, long before we ever sinned.

In the Old Testament, when they sacrificed a lamb, it was for sins already committed. So, does that mean that none of our sins are forgiven? I ask because Jesus's sacrifice was over two thousand years ago, long before we ever sinned. How can Jesus's sacrifice cover sins that have not been committed yet, sins far in the future from when He was crucified?

God lives outside of time.

The Bible is quite clear that **Jesus died once for all sins for all time: the entire span of time**. Once a person believes the gospel, all their sins are forgiven.

*For **by one offering** He has perfected **for all time** those who are sanctified.* Heb 10:14 NAS

Here is a more in-depth explanation.

1) God created time but is not bound by time. The Creator is set apart from the creation. The word "Holy" means set apart.

We know from the scientific evidence that time had a beginning with the creation of the universe. Long before science discovered time had a beginning, the word of God told us the same thing. So, time is a bubble God created, but He does not live in it like we do. Time binds the enemy, sin, and death too.

*He has saved us and called us to a holy life--not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus **before the beginning of time**.* 2 Tim 1:9 NIV

*In the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, **promised before the beginning of time**.* Titus 1:2 NIV

*Who has done such mighty deeds, summoning each new generation **from the beginning of time**? It is I, the LORD, the First and the Last. I alone am he."* Isa 41:4 NLT

2) God does not live in time like His creation does. Time is part of the creation.

For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it passes by, Or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4 NAS

But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. 2 Peter 3:8 NAS

3) God is eternal, having no beginning or end as time does. Only things that come into existence are bound by time.

But You, O LORD, abide forever, And Your name to all generations. Psalm 102:12 NAS

I say, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days, Your years are throughout all generations. Of old You founded the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. Even they will perish, but You endure; And all of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end." Psalm 102:24-27 NAS

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" Exd 3:14 NAS (I AM is the self-existent, eternal one.)

4) God sees the end from the beginning.

Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'; Isa 46:10 NAS

Who has performed and accomplished it, Calling forth the generations from the beginning? 'I, the LORD, am the first, and with the last. I am He.' Isa 41:4 NAS

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." Rev 1:8 NAS (Alpha and Omega is the beginning and the end.)

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Rev 22:13 NAS

5) The Bible points out that Jesus was slain from *the foundation of the earth*.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Rev 13:8 KJV

It also states Jesus appeared at the end of the age to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

For then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. Heb 9:26

These two scriptures make it appear that Jesus sacrificed himself twice.

To further complicate things, it appears there was another sacrifice in 33 AD, during what some may call the middle of the age. So, from what we read it appears that Jesus sacrificed himself three times: before the foundation of the world, in 33 AD, and at the end of the ages.

6) However, the Bible tells us clearly that Jesus sacrificed himself only one time for all sins for all time, not three times.

*For **by one offering** He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.* Heb 10:14 NAS

*By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**.* Heb 10:10 NAS

*For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did **once for all** when He offered up Himself.* Heb 7:26-27 NAS

7) How is it possible that Jesus only had to die once for all sins?

What God does outside of time applies to all time. Hebrews 10:14 tells us Jesus's one sacrifice covered *all sins, for all time: the entire span of time from the beginning to the end.*

*For **by one offering** He has perfected **for all time** those who are sanctified.* Hebrews 10:14 NAS

8) There will be an end of time for us too, when we will no longer be bound by time. There will be no more aging, sickness or death: eternal youth, and life, in Christ.

*Then he said, "I am here to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath. What you have seen pertains to the **very end of time**."* Dan 8:19 NAS

*But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the **end of time**; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.* Dan 12:4 NAS

*And you, Daniel, be faithful to the end. Then you will die, but you will rise to receive your reward at the **end of time**.* Dan 12:13 GNT

9) This is something to be very excited about, Christian. Your past, present, and future sins have been forgiven in Christ's one sacrifice for all, for the *entire span of time*. You have been forgiven much! Believing this will cause you to love much.

"For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little." Luke 7:47 NAS

Failure to believe this truth is what keeps the fruits of the Spirit from growing in your life. The fruits of the Spirit replace the acts of sin once you firmly believe how much God loves you and that you are forgiven for all time.

10) Love is how God gets us to fulfill the intent of His written laws.

Love is what fulfills the spirit of all of God's written laws. The spirit of a written law is the author's original intent for writing the law. It is the only thing that can truly fulfill the letter of the law and the author's desire.

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Rom 13:8-10 NAS

For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Gal 5:14 NAS

11) When the Bible says Christians are qualified to be a minister of the Spirit that gives life and not the letter that brings death, it is saying we are qualified by God to minister the Spirit of the law which is love. We are not qualified to minister the letter of the law that brings death. The letter of the law can only tell you what not to do; it cannot, for instance, tell you to give \$500.00 to your friend in need. The letter will never tell you it is okay to miss church because you saw a person in need and stopped to help them, but the spirit will tell you this is okay. Listen to the Spirit.

The story of the good Samaritan, the woman caught in adultery, the woman with blood, as well as Jesus's numerous healings on the Sabbath and many more are all examples where the letter of the law was not kept, but the spirit of the law was. Jesus's life is an example of walking in the spirit of the law. In the Old Testament, it was an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. With Jesus, it is love your enemy as I have loved you.

Who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Cor 2:6 NAS

12) But it gets even better, Christian. In the New Covenant, Jesus shed His blood for you. (See [Luke 22:20](#)) God has placed you under grace where your sins are not even being counted. Under grace, sin has no dominion over you and cannot take your life.

For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. Rom 6:14 NAS

For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."
Jer 31:34b

*That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, **not counting their trespasses against them**, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 2 Cor 5:19*

*For the law brings wrath, **but where there is no law there is no transgression.** Rom 4:15*

For apart from the law, sin lies dead. Rom 7:8

***I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.** Heb 10:17*

Worship: [Crowder - Forgiven](#)

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5 - Our Righteousness in Christ, Not Condemnation, is the Justice God

Seeks

You [Jesus] love justice and hate evil. Therefore, O God, your God has anointed you, pouring out the oil of joy on you more than on anyone else. Heb 1:9 NLT

The Greek word used for justice or justified is the same Greek word used for righteousness and to make righteous. [1343 dikaiosuné](#)

You Were Made a Sinner by Adam's Disobedience

Do you think it was just that you were made a sinner without even sinning, made wrong with God by Adam's disobedience?

For as through the one man's disobedience [Adam] the many were made sinners. Rom 5:19a NAS

By being made a sinner, the Bible is speaking *of the fallen sin nature we inherited from Adam*. Like a dog's nature leads them to wag their tail, our sin nature leads us to commit acts of sin that lead to death.

Adam and Eve are the only ones besides Jesus who did not start with a sin nature and truly had free choice. They were created in the image of God, without a sin nature. We were created in the image of God plus Adam, with a sin nature, and therefore in the image of the line of fallen Adam.

When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. Gen 5:3 NAS

So, do you think it was just that you had no choice, and at birth, you fell prey to Satan's plan to destroy and kill you: all because you inherited a fallen sin nature from Adam that leads to acts of sin and ultimately death? Paul describes our sin nature in Romans using the word sin forty-eight times: all but once as a noun. Paul talks intimately about his struggle with this sin nature in Romans 7.

For we know that the Law is Spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. But if I do the

very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. Rom 7:14-17 NAS

The Enemy's Plan is to Destroy Your Life and Kill You

Can you see Satan's plan for your inheritance of a sin nature causing havoc in your life and this world? Can you see his plan for your death?

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. John 10:10 NAS

Do you think it is just that you inherited death? Because it happened: as soon as you were born, your sin nature wrote death as your future. You did not have a choice. Therefore, God tells us there is no one who is righteous -- right with God by their own efforts -- without sin.

As it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE." Rom 3:10 NAS

Can you see that you were made a sinner: one who commits acts of sin that lead to death?

For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners. Rom 5:19a NAS

By knowing the character and heart of Jesus from scripture, we also know the exact character and heart of God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

And He [Jesus] is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Heb 1:3 NAS

Do you think God sees as just the fact that we were made sinners, who inherit death?

For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one. Rom 5:17a NAS

Can you see why we cannot fix the problem ourselves? Why just stopping the wrong and doing the right can never release us from our inherited sin nature? Can you see why you need God's help?

Jesus Came to Freely Save You from Your Inherited Sin Nature that Leads to Death

Can you see that our free justification by God tells us He does not see our inheritance of condemnation and death as just?

Can you see that our free justification by God is the justice of God being carried out by Jesus, who loves justice and hates evil?

And all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Rom 3:24 NAS

Can you see how God's justification of us (making us right with Him without doing righteous works) rights a great injustice: a great evil perpetrated by Satan?

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. Rom 5:9 NAS

God makes us righteous (right with Him without doing righteous works) by the obedience of Christ alone.

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the Spirit. 1 Peter 3:18 NAS

Even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. Rom 5:19b NAS

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor 5:21 NAS

Our salvation was not cheap, costing God His beloved Son. But can you see how easy salvation is for us to obtain?

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16 NAS

Can you see why it has nothing to do with our obedience and everything to do with our Savior's righteousness? Can you see why we are called to seek first His righteousness?

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matt 6:33 NAS

Can you see why God qualified us to be an heir of Christ now? We no longer inherit death in Adam. We inherit eternal life in Christ.

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. Col 1:12 NAS

Will Jesus bring God's final judgment, which includes God's wrath, the next time He comes? Yes, Satan needs to be completely dealt with and everything needs to be made right. But we can see from Jesus that God does not desire any sinner to be lost.

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 NAS

We all have the same choice Adam did. We can believe in and trust God or we can choose to not believe God, as Adam did. God told Adam he would die if he ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam did not believe God, ate and died. God tells us we will die if we fail to trust Jesus. God even tells us which choice to make.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants. Deut 30:19 NAS

Jesus told us clearly:

And saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Mark 1:15 NAS

Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins. John 8:24 NAS

Can you see how to reign in life now?

For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ. Rom 5:17 NLT

Let the justice of God be done on your behalf. Let Jesus make you righteous and live!

You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel. Heb 12:24 NLT

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. Rom 5:1-2 NAS

Worship: [Tasha Cobbs - Break Every Chain \(Lyrics\)](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies:

[We Are Not Sinners Because We Sin; We Sin Because We are Sinners Literally Righteous in Christ](#)

[We Need Jesus for Righteousness, Not Happiness](#)

[There is No Condemnation for You, Christian](#)

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6 - Jesus Did Not Die to See If We Can Qualify

Like many believers, *out of fear of punishment* that I would not be saved unless I kept the commandments, I did not sin too much, went to church and so on. I used to judge others and unintentionally communicate that one must qualify for salvation after being born again. If you do not obey, you are not saved. In other words, you do not qualify despite your claims to believe.

My error was that Jesus did not die to judge us and see if we can qualify.

If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. John 12:47

Jesus qualified us, the ungodly sinner, when he died and rose again.

*Giving thanks to the Father, **WHO HAS QUALIFIED YOU** to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:12-13*

And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies [[δικαιοό - make righteous](#)] the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness. Rom 4:5

Satan used doubt to get Adam and Eve to do the one things God clearly warned them not to do. Likewise, Satan attempts to deceive us into doubting the simplicity of God's very clear words in John 3:16, *if you believe you are saved.*

Today, I believe God. I'm forgiven, under grace: not the letter of the law. My confidence is completely in God's justification of me.

*Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? **It is God who justifies.** Rom 8:33*

Perfected in love, I no longer fear punishment.

By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 1 John 4:17-18

Under the New Covenant, I am righteous, fully qualified in Christ. How about you?

Worship: [Jesus Culture - Rooftops](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies:

[Stop Disqualifying Yourself](#)

[Satan Will Always Point You Back to the Law](#)

[Don't Rearm Your Enemy](#)

[Fallen from Grace](#)

[How Much Law Does It Take to Make Grace of No Effect?](#)

* * *

[7 - The Only Way to be Righteous](#)

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21

Although I told others that salvation is a gift that cannot be earned, I felt confused when I read certain verses about righteousness (right standing with God). To me, it seemed as though many verses (especially in the Old Testament) like these appeared to indicate it was about my own right doing.

"Disaster pursues sinners, but the righteous are rewarded with good."
Proverbs 13:21

These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. Genesis 6:9

I would often state that salvation was by grace through faith, but some part of me still feared I had to do right to be right. The enemy led me to incorrectly interpret the above verses as being about performance. When I failed, I felt guilty and condemned.

Thank God the knowledge of the truth has set me free. I now know for certain that the only type of righteousness in the entire Bible is righteousness by faith.

By his [Noah's] faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith. Hebrews 11:7

For in the Gospel, the righteousness of God is revealed--a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written. "The righteous will live by faith," Romans 1:17

Now I know that every time I see someone righteous in God's eyes (other than Jesus) in the Bible (Old or New Testament), it is speaking of *righteousness by faith*. This absolute knowledge helped me understand, earned righteousness for man before God, does not exist as even a possibility in the Bible. No more fear.

*I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for **he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.***
Isa 61:10

If you doubt what I have stated is true, I challenge you to find just one person in the entire Bible who was declared righteous before God by works or keeping the law.

Worship: [Resurrecting](#) | [Live](#) | [Elevation Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies

[Seek First His Righteousness](#)

[Can You Declare Your Righteousness When You Fail, Christian?](#)

[There is No Condemnation for You, Christian](#)

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8 - God WILL NOT Erase Your Name from the Book of Life, Christian

Many present Revelation 3:5 as a warning, in a negative light. *You'd better watch out, because your name might be erased.* But this verse is some of the best news you will read in the Bible, once you know the truth of how we overcome.

He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I WILL NOT erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. Rev 3:5 NAS

Jesus overcame the evil one and the world for us.

*These things I have spoken to you, **so that in Me** you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.* John 16:33 NAS

How do we overcome the evil one and the world? By the blood of the Lamb and the word of Our Testimony. This is also how you were born again.

"And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death. Rev 12:11 NAS

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith, Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 John 5:4-5 NAS

You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the Spirit of error. 1 John 4:4-6 NAS

If anyone confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 1 John 4:15 NAS

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the Father also loves the one born of Him. 1 John 5:1 NAS

Overcoming the world and the evil one has nothing to do with us or our actions, and everything to do with Jesus, who has fully qualified every person who believes in their heart and confesses with their mouth that Jesus is Lord. **We have been qualified by God Himself** to participate in the inheritance of the saints.

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:12-14 NAS

God does not lie.

*I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you **for His name's sake**. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men,*

because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. 1 John 2:12-14 NAS

How do we know for certain which names will be blotted out of the book of life?

May they be blotted out of the book of life. And may they not be recorded with the righteous. Psalm 69:28 NAS

Except Jesus, the only ones declared righteous before God in the Bible are those who are righteous by faith.

Those who reject the truth will have their names blotted from the book of life.

They reject the testimony of the Holy Spirit: that God has given us eternal life in His Son.

If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. 1 John 5:10-12 NAS

They deny the truth: The Father and the Son.

I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth. Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also. As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. 1 John 2 NAS

They deny that Jesus coming in the flesh is from God.

Beloved, do not believe every Spirit, but test the Spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every Spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every Spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the Spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. 1 John 4:1-3 NAS

For many deceivers have gone out into the world, refusing to confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. 2 John 1:7 NAS

They will not confess Jesus is Lord.

Therefore I inform you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:3 NAS

Stop doubting and believe God's word, Christian. You believe and are born of God, safe and sound in the book of life. Now go and tell others the good news.

Worship: [Big Daddy Weave - "Redeemed" \(Official Music Video\)](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies:

[God Said a Believer Can Never be Considered Unholy](#)

[Christians Do Good Works Because Our Salvation is Guaranteed](#)

[Doubting Your Complete and Total Forgiveness is What Keeps You Sinning, Christian](#)

[Faith Without Works is Dead](#)

* * *

9 - Jesus is The End of The Law for Believers for Righteousness

The author agrees with Paul:

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Rom 6:15

The law will not go away until all is accomplished.

For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Matt 5:18

But Christ is the end of the law for righteousness for all who believe.

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

Realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person 1 Tim 1:9a NAS

Sin only has dominion over those who are still under the law, not believers, who are under grace.

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

Paul wrote the following to believers.

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. Gal 3:23-26

Why must the law remain?

For unbelievers: to be their guardian and schoolmaster, leading them to Christ as it states in Gal 3:23-26 above, just like it did for us before we believed. It also protects all of us from each other's fallen nature in this world.

Does this mean believers can sin? We should try our best to walk in love that fulfills the law, but we do sin all the time. Worry, fear and doubt are sins. Anything not of faith is sin.

For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin. Rom 14:23b

Trying to be right with God by the law is not of faith and is therefore sin.

But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." Gal 3:12

In the following verse, God placed fear and doubt at the top of the list for those who are still under the law. Thank goodness Christians are no longer under the law but under grace where sin is not imputed, because we often walk in doubt and fear.

But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death. Rev 21:8

The only people declared righteous before God in the entire Bible, including those in Moses's day when the Ten Commandments were given, were those declared righteous by faith in God. Those who do not flee to the savior for safety (unbelievers) remain unrighteous before God.

But for those who by faith believe they are righteous by Christ's finished work alone-- not under the law as the Bible teaches-- the New Testament never even calls them sinners or sinner sub-titles: liar, thief, etc.

Judging Others as We Want to Be Judged

Since believers are judged by grace and not the law, Jesus warns us about the measure we use to judge other people, including believers. He tells us the measure we use for others is the measure He will use for us.

For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Matt 7:2

Matt 18:21-35 is an example of what happens to the person who takes advantage of God's kindness and grace and then judges men made in God's image by the law instead of grace.

Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart. Matt 18:32-35

In Gal 5:14, Paul gives a strong warning to those who think justification will come by the law.

You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. Gal 5:14

We should not expect to be judged by grace if we are going to judge others by the law.

Should We Sin Because We Are Under Grace, Where Sin is Not Counted?

The question is should we sin? The answer is no.

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Rom 6:1-2

When we do sin, is God counting our sins and will we be punished for them? The answer is no, as Paul tells us over and over.

Christians are called to walk by the Spirit. The Spirit of all of God's laws is love. Love is a much higher standard than the letter of the law and love is the only thing that fulfills all of God's laws. To sin against another (steal, cheat, lie, etc.) is not walking in love as God wants his children to do. Jesus modeled how we are to act with others.

"...who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." 2 Cor 3:6

The phrase "the spirit of a law" means the author's intention for writing the letter of the law. All of God's laws have as their spirit /intent love. This tells us a lot about God's character. He loves us and wants to protect and save us.

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Gal 5:14

*"Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,' and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbor; **therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.**" Rom 13:8-10*

Do you believe God's word?

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

Worship: [Matthew West - Grace Wins](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[A Christian is Dead to the Law, Freed from the Law and Dead to Sin](#)

[Love is a Much Higher Standard than the Letter of the Law](#)
[Misconceptions About Not Being Under the Law as a Christian](#)
[How Grace Defeated Sin in My Life](#)

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10 - Christians are Blessed Because God is Not Counting our Sins

I am against sin. Sin kills, steals and destroys and is not where any believer wants to hang out. But an incorrect belief about how God sees and has dealt with our sin is very damaging, leading to guilt and condemnation. Believing the truth is the only thing that sets us free. There is no condemnation in Christ.

Many claim Christians can only be blessed by God if they do not sin. But God states that the one who is blessed is the one “whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity... David in Psalm 32:1-2a

Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.
David, as quoted in Rom 4:7-8

Now if a person was not sinning, why would the Lord not need to count their sin? In these verses, King David is talking prophetically about a blessed person who does sin, and God does not count their sin. Who are these blessed people? You are one of them if you have placed your faith and trust in Jesus as Savior.

Not counting our sins is one of the biggest blessings God can give us.

Why is God not counting/imputing our sins?

The problem is not our sin. The forgiveness of our sins has been fully dealt with on the cross. The problem is our inherited sin nature under Adam that leads to the inheritance of death.

Jesus came to save us from this inherited fallen sin nature we received under Adam. He did not come to see if we can qualify to get into heaven. He came to fully qualify all who would trust in His righteousness.

When we believe, we are born-again under Jesus, our past sins are forgiven, we are credited with His righteousness, made right with God for past iniquities, become co-heirs with Christ of eternal life and are placed under grace where sin is not counted/imputed.

For the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation. Rom 4:15 NAS

Sin is not imputed when there is no law. Rom 5:13b NAS

Instead of being heirs of death under Adam, we are now heirs of eternal life under Jesus. Under God’s grace, where we live, sin has no dominion over us because we are free from the law that condemns and kills.

For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. Rom 6:14 NAS

Sin got its power to kill us from the law. Satan will use the law we are no longer under as a weapon to accuse, condemn and kill us, if he can deceive us into thinking we are still under the law.

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 1 Cor 15:56

We are placed under grace: to be protected from the evil one. In Jesus's high priestly prayer for us in John 17, he asks the Father to protect us from the evil one.

I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. John 17:15 NAS

The Father's answer to Jesus's prayer was to put us under grace, where the law cannot condemn us. This is what disarms Satan and defeats sin and our inherited sin nature.

*When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. **When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.** Col 2:13-15 NAS [Satan is the ruler of this world]*

God cannot lie.

For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more. Jer 31:34 NAS

FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE. Heb 8:12 NAS

AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE. Heb 10:17 NAS

I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins. Isa 43:25 NAS

As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12 NAS

I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud And your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you. Isa 44:22 NAS

You are greatly blessed, Christian!

Should we sin because God is not counting/imputing our sins? No! This would be like a child who learned right and wrong in their father's house and then moves out and forgets their father gave them rules out of love to protect them. Therefore, they go out and start stealing. This lands them in jail and the clutches of the ruler of this world: exactly what the Father gave them the rules to protect them from.

*What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace?
May it never be! Rom 6:15 NAS*

Worship: [Who Am I - Casting Crowns](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies:

[A Christian's Sins are NOT Counted Against Them](#)

[Can a Christian Lose their Salvation by Sinning? NO](#)

[Dead to Mr. Law, Married to Mr. Grace](#)

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11 -Believers are Never Called Sinners in the New Testament

The author is against all sin. I agree with Paul.

*What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace?
By no means! Romans 6:15*

The author also agrees with Paul that we are no longer under the letter of the law that brings condemnation. We are under grace as believers and where there is no law, sin is not imputed.

*For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under
grace. Rom 6:14 NAS*

Sin is not imputed where there is no law. Rom 5:13b NAS

In reading the Bible, it is imperative to rightly divide the word.

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to
be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim 2:15 KJV*

We need to start by understanding the context of a verse and who is it written for: a Jew or Gentile, an unbeliever or believer. This message will help you rightly divide the word with regards to a believer and unbeliever.

The Greek word translated sinner is used forty-seven times in the New Testament. Not one of these verses is spoken by Jesus or the apostles about a believer who had sinned. See here: https://biblehub.com/greek/strongs_268.htm.

The title of sinner, like the title of unrighteous, hypocrite, ungodly or unholy are exclusively reserved for unbelievers. The sinner sub-titles of liar, thief, murderer, homosexual and all others also apply only to unbelievers.

Why are believers in the Bible called righteous and not called sinners when we know for a fact that believers, then like now, commit acts that constitute sin? For example in [1 Tim 3:1-13](#) and [Titus 1:5-9](#) we see a long list of sins found in believers at the time that would disqualify them as a church leader. There were others like those in the Corinthian church, who committed a lot of sin, yet Paul calls them saints, never sinners.

The Answer

1) We were made sinners by Adam's disobedience and we are now new creations, made righteous by Jesus's obedience and sacrifice.

*Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as **by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.*** Rom 5:18-19

2) We were called sinners before we believed in Christ and his obedience.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8 This verse notes a change in status, *while we were still sinners.*

After we believe, the Bible clearly distinguishes believers in Christ (righteous) from unbelievers (sinner) in the following manner:

Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous [believer], but sinners [unbeliever]." Matt 9:13 (emphasis mine)

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner [unbeliever] who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons [believer] who need no repentance. Luke 15:7 (emphasis mine)

And "If the righteous [believer] is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner [unbeliever]?" 1 Peter 4:18 (emphasis mine)

I have not come to call the righteous [believer] but sinners [unbeliever] to repentance. Luke 5:32 NAS (emphasis mine)

3) God sees those in Christ as already holy, sanctified and righteous in His eyes, solely because of the blood of Jesus. Like God, we are to regard ([1492. Eidó](#)) no one according to the flesh. We are not to judge them by their flesh: by appearance. They are not what we see in the flesh. God sees the new heart He has given them, and they are not their failures and their sins to God. They are seen without regard to their flesh, in the perfection of Jesus, as all believers are.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded [[1492. Eidó](#)] Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 2 Cor 5:16

4) Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation cleansed by the blood of Jesus and born again, as the following states.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to

God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor 5:17-21

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Gal 6:15

In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. Col 3:11 NLT

That, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the Spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth. Eph 4:22-24 NAS

5) Sin is a transgression of the law.

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. 1 John 3:4 KJV.

Believers have been set free from the law and placed under grace, where sin has no dominion over them. You cannot transgress a law you are not under.

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

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Romans 6:15

For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. Rom 8:2

If believers have been set free from the law, and are not under the law, but under grace as the Bible clearly states, then believers cannot transgress the law. Therefore, they cannot be a sinner in God's eyes. We see believers called righteous in the Bible and not sinners; it is all about Jesus's one-time offering for all for the entire span of time.

6) This also means that when you see verses that list specific sins like the following, the Bible assigns these subtitles of a sinner to unbelievers only. Believers are never called by these titles, even though they still commit some of these acts.

But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that law IS NOT MADE FOR A RIGHTEOUS PERSON [a righteous person is always a believer in Bible], but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners [always an unbeliever], for the unholy [the Bible never calls a believer unholy] and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted. 1 Tim 1:8-11 NAS (emphasis mine)

This truth that these sinner subtitles do not apply to believers can be further verified in Romans 7. These verses tell us how death releases us from the law. Paul uses a natural example of adultery. He explains that once a person is freed from the law, they cannot be called an adulterer. He then correlates this with those who are dead to the law in Christ.

Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code. Rom 7:1-6

Read Romans 7 yourself to go deeper.

7) This fact that believers are called righteous and never sinners corresponds with the fact that the Bible does not teach that the Holy Spirit convict's believers of their sins. Jesus, while speaking to the disciples in [John 16:8-10](#), is very clear that the Holy Spirit convicts the disciples, believers, of their righteousness in Him and convicts unbelievers of the sin of unbelief.

8) The knowledge that a believer is never called a sinner in the New Testament by God will help you tremendously with other hard verses too: verses that may have confused you in the past where you thought God was talking to you as a believer. Verses that refer to a sinner are talking *exclusively about unbelievers*. If you go to these verses and read them in their full context with this understanding, they will be extremely clear to you.

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners [always an unbeliever]; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. James 4:8 NAS (emphasis mine)

Let him know that he who turns a sinner [always an unbeliever] from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. James 5:20 NAS (emphasis mine)

Important tips that will help you rightly divide the word.

1) Only a believer is called righteousness by God. Therefore, whenever you see a verse about the unrighteous before God, you know it is talking about an unbeliever, even though believers commit acts of sin too.

2) Whenever you see a person called a hypocrite, it is talking about an unbeliever. Believers are never called hypocrites in the New Testament, even though they commit acts that constitute sin.

3) God never calls a believer unholy and tells us not to also, even though believers commit acts that constitute sin.

4) Whenever you see a person who has fallen away from grace, it does not mean they have sinned too much. It means they have gone back to the law to be right with God. Paul told the Galatians that if they added the law in addition to grace to be saved, they were severed from Christ and had fallen from grace.

5) The only unforgivable sin is unbelief. This means that every other sin you might have thought is unforgivable is forgivable.

Now, if God regards a believer as holy, sanctified and righteous and never calls believers a sinner, a hypocrite or any sinner sub-title, including unholy or unrighteous, how do you think we should regard other believers and ourselves?

God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean. Acts 10:28b NAS

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. 2 Cor 5:16-17

This information is further evidence of the promises God makes to us in the New Covenant.

I will forgive their iniquity, I will remember their sin no more. Jer 31:34b

For I will forgive their iniquities, and remember their sins no more. Heb 8:12

Then he adds: Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more. Heb 10:17

Now, pause and think about how great our God is: how much He loves you and how he will never leave you or forsake you. Does this make you want to go out and sin or does it make you want to love Him that much more?

Do you have questions about Paul's use of the present tense "sinner" for himself in 1 Timothy 1:15-16? Read quote below from Tony Capoccia:

"Note that even though Paul used the present tense it cannot mean that he is now committing the worst sins, because he was a holy and godly preacher of righteousness, whose own writings demand criteria of holiness for anyone who aspires to the ministry. No, even Paul states that he was shown mercy (past tense), because of his sinfulness. How do these two statements blend? It is simple, let me illustrate. Suppose a 20-year-old man ran a three-minute mile. Surely, he would be the world's record holder for running the mile. Now, 70 years later, when the man is now 90

years old, we find that his record is still unbroken. Is he still the world's fastest man on record? Does he (present tense) hold the world record for the mile run? Of course, the answer is yes. Even though he couldn't run very far, he is still the world's record holder for the mile. In the same way, Paul, even though he has been saved and made into a new person, still holds the world record for sins. And therefore, he could honestly state, "I am presently the worst sinner in the world!" That is, "I presently hold the world's record for sin." No one has offended God more than me!" <http://www.biblebb.com/files/tc-001.htm>

The author is against all sin. I agree totally with Paul.

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Romans 6:15

Worship: [What a Beautiful Name w/ Break Every Chain - Hillsong Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Holy Spirit Does Not Convict a Believer of Their Sins](#)

[I Am Holy, I Am Sanctified, I Am Perfected](#)

[I Am a New Creation IN CHRIST](#)

[God Said a Believer Can Never be Considered Unholy](#)

* * *

12 - God Sees a Believer's Faith, Not Their Sins

In the New Covenant of grace and truth that Jesus brought, God repeatedly promises that He is not remembering, counting or imputing our sins.

For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more. Jer 31:34 NAS

FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE. Heb 8:12 NAS

AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE. Heb 10:17 NAS

The New Covenant has fully replaced the Old Covenant of law that Moses gave.

When a person comes to a saving knowledge of Christ, they are forgiven of all their sins and placed under grace where sin (noun – inherited sin nature) is no longer their master and their acts of sin are no longer being counted. God sees our flesh as crucified and dead on the cross with Christ as we are called to see by faith.

For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. Rom 6:14 NAS

This means that their inherited sin nature (the master in [Rom 6:14](#)) can no longer lead them unto death. It does not mean that our fallen flesh will no longer sin. Our fallen flesh

will battle our perfected Spirit until the day it dies as it did for Paul as expressed in Romans 7.

When we are born again, we are given a new Spirit that is holy, sanctified, righteous and perfected. Our Spirit is sealed in Christ by the Holy Spirit. This seal protects our Spirit from any contamination from the world.

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave [us] the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge. 2 Cor 1:21-22 NAS

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory. Eph 1:13-14 NAS

And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Eph 4:30 NAS

Our eternal God-given born-again Spirit never has a desire to sin and struggles with our flesh our entire life on earth.

Think of a letter to a king. On that letter is a seal that keeps the contents secure and assures it has not been opened before he receives it. Only the king has authority to open this letter. We are that letter to the King, the words written in Christ's blood. The letter is sealed by the Holy Spirit, the guarantee of our redemption to our King and us.

...you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. 2 Cor 3:3 NAS

But our flesh remains unredeemed. Our flesh is still of this world and houses the inherited sin nature with which we were born. In the end, our flesh pays the ultimate price for our acts of sin and dies. The wages of sin are death.

This division of spirit and flesh is crucial to understand. God sees our flesh as crucified and dead with Christ. He calls us to see the same, by faith, and we know for certain the death of our flesh will happen. God calls us to walk in the Spirit and not in the dead flesh right now. We are supposed to regard all believers, including ourselves, as being in the Spirit, not the flesh. God only sees us as a living Spirit, not as our dead flesh. We are the only ones who have a difficult time seeing our flesh as dead and ourselves as only in the Spirit. Understanding this division between our living Spirit and our dead flesh is the key to great freedom in Christ.

God only sees our faith, and not the sin of our dead flesh. Not only does God tell us numerous times He is not counting or imputing our sins, but He also shows us examples of this in Hebrews 11, the hall of faith. If you read Hebrews 11, you see the great faith of Abraham, Sarah and Rahab to name a few. They look like stellar examples of perfect faith. But what you do not see recorded is all their sin, failure, and doubt of God's words, all written about in the Old Testament. This is because God did not count their sins just like He is not counting ours.

*I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake,
And I will not remember your sins. Isa 43:25 NAS*

It is for this reason that you never see a believer called a sinner or any sinner subtitle like liar, thief, etc. in the Bible. All who believe are called righteous, and there is a clear distinction. This is not because they did not sin, because they did, but because God is looking for our faith: not our sin. This is also why you never see a believer called a hypocrite except for one time when Peter acts like a legalistic Jew, judging his Gentile friends to impress the self-righteous Jews.

God is not looking at our dead flesh; he sees it as dead like we are called to. He does not see the sins it commits or impute them to our account. He is not holding them against us because we are not our dead flesh. Our flesh is simply a temporary tent we still live in until we die and our redemption can be completed. This is when we receive a new glorified body that is free from an inherited sin nature: One in perfect sync with our already perfected Spirit. There will be no further struggle with sin or desire to sin.

The value of our old flesh is that it allows our Spirit to remain here and be an ambassador for Christ in this fallen world. Therefore, God puts up with it. He desires all to come to a saving knowledge of Christ, and we are here on the front lines to do His work in a form other humans recognize and can relate to. Our flesh is expendable because it is already dead. When we die here it is the best thing that can happen to a believer, so we lose nothing and gain everything.

When Jesus returns, He will be looking for our faith as believers, not our sin.

...However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8 NAS

How will you choose to see yourself, in your dead flesh or as a living Spirit in Christ? Will you choose to see your flesh as dead as God does and calls you to? Will you commit to learning how to walk by the Spirit and not the letter? To walk in the Spirit, in Christ? Or will you remain captive to your old nature? It is up to you. If you believe the gospel you are saved right now, period. You now have a choice to continue to see yourself in your dead flesh and struggle in the wilderness, or in the perfection of the Spirit thriving in the promised land today.

Study the New Covenant of grace and truth that Jesus brought us exclusively for one year, and your life will be transformed. The book of Hebrews is all about the New Covenant, and I have many studies that can help you to enjoy all the freedom Jesus died to give you.

Worship: [Hillsong UNITED Oceans \(Where Feet May Fail\) Lyric Video](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[How to Examine Yourself and See if You Are in the Faith](#)

[Faith Without Works is Dead](#)

[Examining the Practical Righteousness of Abraham](#) – Hebrews 11 hall of faith information.

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[13 - Jesus Never Called a Believer a Hypocrite](#)

The author is against all sin. I agree totally with Paul.

*What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace?
By no means! Romans 6:15*

Introduction

This Bible study, like most I have written, is designed to rid the believer of any doubt regarding God's love for them and their complete and total forgiveness in Christ. It is only Satan who wants you to doubt your total forgiveness and righteousness in Christ, which leads you to doubt God's love. Satan knows that doubting these truths is specifically what keeps a believer trapped in reoccurring sin and ineffective for God. These studies are designed to renew the mind.

The purpose of this article is to reveal the truth that God never called a believer a hypocrite no matter how badly they failed. The title of hypocrite was, and is, exclusively reserved for the self-righteous unbeliever.

Study

When Christians fail to act like Jesus, some unbelievers will call them hypocrites. Even Christians sometimes do this to other Christians who fall into sin.

The Bible's definition of the Greek word used for hypocrite can be found under [Strong's 5273](#): an actor, (lit: a stage-player), pretender. One who pretends to be something they are not.

God pointed out to me that when we see people called hypocrites in the Bible, they are never those who have placed their faith in Jesus. It is always speaking of self-righteous unbelievers, with one interesting exception I list below.

The reason God does not call believers hypocrites is because believers see themselves in the truth of God's perfect moral standard and admit openly that they cannot keep it. By throwing themselves on God's mercy and grace, believers are far from hypocritical. When they say they need a Savior, they are saying they see in truth how high God's standard is, and they respect it as just. As a believer, our inability to keep God's perfect standard in thought, word and deed never changes. Therefore, our testimony remains the same; we need a Savior. We never get to a point where we have no sin in our lives and can judge others this side of heaven. In this testimony, there is no possibility of a believer being called an actor or pretender, thus a hypocrite.

On the other hand, non-believers—just like believers—know God's perfect standard through their conscience, but instead of admitting they cannot keep it and turning to God for help, they, like the Pharisees, deceive themselves into thinking they are good enough for God. They justify themselves by comparing themselves to the outward appearance of others, even Christians. Always able to find someone they believe is worse no matter what their behavior may be, they use this flawed reasoning to judge themselves good enough for God.

"If God exists," some say. They claim they do not need a savior from their sins, just like the self-righteous (those who trust their own good works) Pharisees in Jesus's time.

Jesus called the Pharisees white-washed tombs full of dead men's bones. In other words, on the outside, they appeared to have it all together, but on the inside a different reality was present. While they thought they were pulling a fast one on others, they had been deceived and had pulled the wool over their own eyes.

The truth is, without exception, the self-righteous unbelievers were the only ones Jesus called "hypocrites," not those who had placed their faith in Him.

"You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you" Matt 15:7

You can see this for yourself by reviewing the 18 times the Greek word translated hypocrite is used [HERE](#).

Jesus was angry with the self-righteous. His main problem with the Pharisees was that not only were they misled by their own self-righteousness, but they were also leading others off in the same wrong direction, further under the law and away from Jesus and God's saving grace. The apostle Paul was just as angry with those who were leading the Galatians away from grace and back under the law, pronouncing a double curse on them (see [Gal 1:8-9](#)).

Hiding our sins to impress others, acting like on our own we are good enough for God while knowing that we are not, is the hypocrisy that God hates. It is a form of pride, and it keeps people from God's saving grace.

If you have placed your faith and trust in Jesus as your savior, you need not worry about being denied access to heaven for hypocrisy because you are not sin-free. Your Spirit has been born again and perfected by the blood of Christ, while your fallen flesh, where sin has been condemned, will die. If you have lied, stolen and committed other sins, no matter how heinous, if your faith is in Jesus it will not be a liar and a thief who is getting into heaven. Believers are under grace where *sin is not counted against them*: not under the law. You are a new creation in Christ, so clean that when you enter heaven, it will be as if you never sinned.

Just think of Peter, who followed Jesus for three years and failed more than once. One time he loudly stated he would never leave Jesus's side even if all the other disciples did. Then soon after, well within remembrance of his pledge to Jesus, Peter denied Jesus three times when Jesus needed him the most.

Yet not once do we see Jesus calling Peter a liar or a hypocrite. Peter failed like all believers do at times, but Jesus lovingly comforted and brought Peter back to a place where he ended up being of great use to God. You can find numerous examples of believers (King David, the Corinthian Church, Abraham, etc.) who non-believers would want to call hypocrites when they failed, yet the Bible does not. You never see Paul or the other disciples calling believers hypocrites, even though there were plenty of times when they could have done so. Like Jesus, they loved and encouraged other believers back onto their feet.

The One Exception - Something to Really Think About, Christian

As noted above, people today perceive Christians as hypocritical when they sin, implying Christianity is all about keeping the law, which it is not. *This false idea of Christianity often portrayed by the church to the masses is what has kept many from coming to Jesus.* Neither God nor the apostles call a believer under grace a hypocrite

when they fall short in law keeping. Ironically, in the New Testament, the only time a believer is said to act in hypocrisy is when the Apostle Peter, who had been living outside the law like a Gentile, acts like a self-righteous believer who now keeps all the law and shuns those same Gentiles when some Jewish disciples of James show up in Antioch. In other words, he tries to look more like a believer by his actions when religious people show up. Religious people are always concerned by what others think and outside appearances.

And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. Gal 2:13

If we break the law when those we fear cannot see us, then keep it when the religious bunch is present to please them, and judge others along with them, we are acting just like Peter, Paul would call us a hypocrite as a believer. In Galatians 2, Paul points out the hypocrisy and strongly rebukes Peter for his actions. He indicates that Peter stands condemned when **in Christ** the Bible says there is no condemnation. Paul goes on to emphasize that we are justified by faith in Christ alone and not by adding the law on as a requirement for salvation.

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. Gal 2:11-16

If you remember, when Jesus was brought the woman caught in adultery, He did not say, "he who has not committed adultery can cast the first stone." Jesus said, "He who is without sin can cast the first stone." We know for certain that Peter still had sin in his life when he judged the Gentiles by his action of separating himself from the Gentiles to the religious Jews. Thus, Paul charged him with hypocrisy. Peter had the truth he could share with the religious bunch. Instead, he chose to act like them out of fear of man. Sounds like something we often do as Christians, unfortunately.

Peter's actions, and Paul claiming he stands condemned, is a picture of how a person can be severed from grace, as mentioned in [Gal 5:4](#). This verse tells us that a believer falls from grace not when they sin too much, but when they add the law back in as a requirement for salvation. This is how Peter was acting and is a lesson for all believers who do not want to be even temporarily severed from God's grace and charged with hypocrisy.

You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. Gal 5:4

The truth is our salvation has nothing to do with us and everything to do with the perfect Lamb of God, who was offered as a sacrifice for our sins. The reason we placed our faith in Jesus is—like Peter and the other disciples—we saw ourselves in truth, falling short of God’s standard. Just like in the Old Testament, when sinners brought offerings for their sins, the priest did not examine the sinners; he knew why they were there. He examined the offering and if the offering was acceptable, the innocent lamb was sacrificed and the person went home free. When we brought Jesus, we brought the perfect Lamb of God given to us as a gift, personally by God himself.

Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies
Rom 8:33

The truth is that you do not want to be caught dead under God’s law. If you are a non-believer, God loves you, and Jesus came to save you. God is not against you. He is your only hope. Go [HERE](#) to learn more.

Worship: [Lauren Daigle - Trust In You](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Sin Does Not Make a Christian a Hypocrite](#)

[What is the One Unforgivable Sin?](#)

[These People Will Not Inherit the Kingdom of God](#)

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14 - God Swore He Would NOT be Angry with or Rebuke Believers

Most Christians are aware of the amazing prophecy of Jesus the Messiah in [Isaiah 53](#). Read [Isaiah 54](#) for a list of promises and blessings for those who believe. This article is about a promise God made to believers in [Isaiah 54:9](#) that most Christians are oblivious to.

This is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth Isaiah 54:9a

God starts [Isaiah 54:9](#) by reminding us that he keeps His promises. Then he goes on to swear to a new promise in the second half of the verse.

So, I have SWORN that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you. Isaiah 54:9b

God SWORE not to *rebuke or even be angry with believers*. Yet, sadly, many believers do not believe the sworn ***unconditional promises to believers from God*** in Isaiah 54. The sole reason they have a difficult time believing God is because they are focused on their sin instead of His righteousness that they possess as a believer.

God makes the promises in [Isaiah 54](#) specifically because He is not looking at our self-righteous, which is like filthy rags ([Isa 64:6](#)). He sees us established in **HIS OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS**: the righteousness [Matthew 6:33](#) tells us to seek first.

In righteousness you shall be established... Isaiah 54:10a.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn.

*This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, **AND THEIR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS OF ME, SAITH THE LORD.*** Isaiah 54:17 KJV

The key is ***“their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.”*** When God looks at a born-again believer, he sees us in the inherited righteousness of Christ and no longer in the inherited sin nature of Adam ([Rom 5:12-21](#)). Jesus has saved us from the curse we inherited from Adam.

God makes a bold promise to us, comparing it to the end of the world.

*“For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but **my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,**” says the LORD, who has compassion on you.* Isaiah 54:10

In other words, it would be easier for the earth to depart than for God’s love and peace to be removed from you.

He also promises that He is not the cause of our strife or problems, as some claim:

If anyone stirs up, strife, it is not from me... Isaiah 54:14a

God is not angry with you, Christian. If you think he is, you are in unbelief: you have been deceived by the accuser of the brethren who only comes to kill, steal and destroy. If you sense God is angry with you and he is convicting you of sin, you are hearing the enemy and not the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has come to convict believers of their righteousness. God is for you and not against you, but if you remain in unbelief, you will live this life as though it were not true

Your right standing with God is not of your own doing; it is of the Lord. You inherited Adam’s fallen nature at birth without needing to commit even one sin. ([Rom 5:12-21](#)) When you believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, you were born again and inherited His righteous nature without the need to commit even one righteous act.

To stop sin and become more like Jesus, start by no longer walking in the flesh, elevating your faults in your mind over God’s gift of righteousness. Walk in the Spirit by focusing on God’s love and complete forgiveness of your past, present and future sins. Focus on who you are in Christ. If you establish your thoughts upon His love, forgiveness and righteousness, God promises you will be transformed into the image of Christ.

Dive into an ocean of God’s love for you today. What do you have to lose, Christian?

Worship: [RECKLESS LOVE \(Official Live Version\) - Cory Asbury w/ Story Behind the Song](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Do Not Let the Holiness of God Blind You to the Love of God](#)
[What is Maturity? Knowing God's Holiness or God's Love and Grace?](#)
[How to Read the Bible to Understand God's Love and Grace for You First](#)

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15 - Believers Are Righteous, Holy, Sanctified and Perfected

As a believer, we should be declaring that we are righteous, holy, sanctified and perfected in Christ. If you have a hard time doing this, you are looking at yourself and not Jesus.

The Greek word used in the New Testament for holy is the same word used for sanctified. If it says you're holy, it means you're sanctified and vice versa.

[Hagiazó](#) - Short Definition: I make holy, sanctify

And by that will, we have been made holy [sanctified] through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Heb 10:10 NIV

Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified [made holy], but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God. 1 Cor 6:11 NAS

For both He who sanctifies and those who are holy are all from one [Father]; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren Heb 2:11 NAS

And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build [you] up and to give [you] the inheritance among all those who are (sanctified)holy. Acts 20:32 NAS

That they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified(made holy) by faith in Me.' Acts 26:18b NAS

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified [made holy]. Heb 10:14 NAS

Paul even calls the Corinthians who were caught up in sexual sin sanctified/holy. Like us, I would guess that is not what they saw when they looked in the mirror or at the flesh of their brothers and sisters in Christ. He also called them saints.

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their [Lord] and ours. 1 Cor 1:2 NAS

Our salvation is not about us. While we should always try to do the next right thing, the flesh will never be perfected: *that is why it must die.*

This is faith: we no longer regard ourselves or other believers by the flesh. We believe God's word that we are already a new creation.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Cor 5:16-17

I am righteous, holy, sanctified and perfected.

Worship: [No longer slave to Fear: I am a Child of God - Chris Tomlin \(Lyrics\)](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Sanctified or Not?](#)

[I Am a New Creation IN CHRIST](#)

[Christians are on The Highway of Holiness; Be Holy, Because I Am Holy is a Prophecy](#)

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16 - God Said a Believer Can Never be Considered Unholy

For years, I have known that in [Acts 10:15](#) Peter conveys God's message that all foods were now permissible for him to eat as a Jew, because no foods that have been cleansed by God can be considered unholy.

Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy." Acts 10:15 NAS

The word used for unholy in the [Greek](#) means to make unclean or regard as unclean.

Recently I was reading that verse again and the word "cleansed" stuck out to me. It hit me that God was not only talking about food. God was saying that nothing he has cleansed can be considered unholy. I read further for confirmation, and there it was plain as day from Peter.

And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean." Acts 10:28 NAS

Peter realized long ago what I had just realized. Nothing cleansed by the blood of Christ can be considered unholy.

It is interesting to note that the Gentiles never had the law and the Jews viewed them as a most unholy people. Most reading this will be Gentiles, and the Jews would have never even considered that a Gentile like yourself would have the slightest chance of being holy before God. The Jews considered the Gentiles as unholy dogs who were outside the law. How could they possibly be holy outside the law?

And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." Matt 15:26

To those outside the law, I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 1 Cor 9:21

Yet God tells Peter to consider nothing he has cleansed as unholy.

And he made no distinction between us [Jews] and them [Gentiles], having cleansed their hearts by faith. Acts 15:9

*Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, **having cleansed her** by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, **that she might be holy and without blemish.** Eph 5:25b-27*

The [Greek word](#) for holy means set apart or sacred.

If Jesus is your Savior, the Bible states you are sanctified, perfected and holy due solely to the single sacrifice offered by Christ. It has zero to do with you, your actions or law keeping and everything to do with the fact that you believe God. With Jesus's one sacrifice, it was finished.

So, the next time the enemy, the accuser of the brethren, points out your faults and claims you are unholy, firmly remind him that nothing God has cleansed can be considered unholy.

But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, Heb 10:12

And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Heb 10:10

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified [holy]. Heb 10:14 NAS (Emphasis mine – Greek word used in NT for sanctified is the same word for holy)

Jesus is the first fruits, the root. We are the whole lump and the branches in this verse. His blood has made us holy.

If the dough offered as first fruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches. Rom 11:16

Now, do you know someone who has also trusted in Christ, maybe someone you see at work or in the mirror, that at times looks like an unholy Gentile dog living outside the law? Is God telling you what he told Peter?

Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy." Acts 10:15 NAS

Worship: [I Will Boast in Christ - Hillsong Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Do Not Let the Holiness of God Blind You to the Love of God](#)

[God is Looking for Our Faith, Not Our Holiness](#)

Is There Such Thing as a Violent Christian Drunkard?

* * *

17 - Christians Are Not Qualified to be Ministers of the Letter of the Law

Many believers act as though Christians are qualified to minister the letter of the law, especially towards other believers who may be struggling with their old fallen nature and are still trapped in reoccurring sin.

This is contrary to what the Bible teaches. As believers, we are only qualified by God to be ministers of the spirit of the law: not the letter.

And He has qualified us as ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Cor 3:6 BSB

The Greek word used for a minister is defined: a waiter, servant, administrator.

As we minister life, we are to serve the Spirit that gives life. As one of the guilty, we are not qualified or able to judge ourselves and others righteously and serve condemnation and death. Only God is the righteous judge.

The Old Covenant letter of the law is the ministry of death and condemnation engraved on stones.

*Now if the **ministry of death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came** with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at the face of Moses **because of its fleeting glory**, is not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? For if **the ministry of condemnation** was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry of righteousness! 2 Cor 3:7-9 BSB*

Can you imagine where we would be if Jesus ministered the letter of the law to us as the Pharisees did? No one would be saved.

Through the years, fallen men have always ended up abusing the letter of the law, justifying themselves, showing themselves favoritism and partiality, while judging their neighbors and holding them to the letter. The Pharisees are the perfect example of fallen men abusing the letter of the law for their own benefit. They even used the letter to kill the author of the law. The Pharisees are not alone in their abuse of the law in this manner. From Adam and the fall up until today, fallen humanity naturally wants to judge others and justify themselves. Do you remember Adam's reply to God? "The women you gave me, gave me the fruit and I ate." In that short reply, Adam tried to justify himself and judge Eve and God.

The spirit of the law is the author's sole intent or reason for writing the law.

All of God's law have as their spirit love. This is the intent/reason God wrote the Ten Commandments in the first place. We know this for certain because the Bible is very clear on the one thing that fulfills the entire law of God: love.

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Rom 13:8-10 NAS

For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." Gal 5:14 NAS

The letter of the law was given out of love to be our guardian, trainer, tutor, and guide to lead us to Christ. The letter of the law protects you from my fallen nature and me from yours. It also shows a person their true need for the Savior, Jesus. When we come to faith in Christ, we no longer need a guardian; we are safe and sound in Him.

Now before faith came, we were held in custody under the Law, having been locked up until the faith being about to be revealed, so that the Law has become our guardian [trainer, tutor] unto Christ, so that we might be justified by faith. And faith having come, we are no longer under a guardian [trainer, tutor]. Gal 3:23-25 BSB (clarification mine)

The Greek word used for a trainer is defined as "a boy's guardian or tutor." A guardian is given to a child out of love to protect them until the child becomes of age.

We are qualified to minister love, which encompasses grace and truth, and not the letter of the law, which can only condemn and kill. What did we see Jesus ministering? He modeled and ministered the spirit of the law. He fulfilled the law by walking by the Spirit just as the above verses tell us the only way the law is fulfilled. In doing so, Jesus did not always keep the letter of the law, breaking the letter of the Sabbath several times but always walking by the spirit of the law: love. Every time He violated the letter of the Sabbath it was to walk in the real intent of the author of the law: to demonstrate love to the lost and suffering. With whom was Jesus angry? The blind Pharisees who completely ignored the spirit of the law, the author's sole reason for writing the law, and strictly enforced and abused the letter. Therefore, the Pharisees did not recognize Jesus. They did not recognize the spirit of the law: love. They were so blinded by the holiness of God they could not see the love of God, Jesus.

Jesus's death for His enemies was Jesus walking by the spirit and not the letter. It is the love of God demonstrated for us. If Jesus had walked by the letter of the law, we would all be condemned. We are to love others now as He has loved us, to bring life and not condemnation and death.

A new commandment I give to you, that you should love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. John 13:34 BSB

Jesus with the woman caught in adultery, the story of the good Samaritan, and others all reflect the spirit of the law overriding the letter of the law. To walk by the spirit of the law is always higher than the letter and is the only thing that can truly please and fulfill the author's intent.

Under the Old Covenant Law of Moses

Not just anyone could administer the letter of the law under the Old Covenant. Only the Levitical priests were chosen, strictly qualified by God to minister the letter of the law of Moses. In Leviticus 21, God lists additional stringent requirements of holiness for these priests. God was aware that the letter of the law required special handling and only those he qualified could minister the ministry of condemnation and death.

In the story of the woman caught in adultery, Jesus pointed out that those who are lawbreakers themselves are not qualified to judge others by the letter of the law. To judge others by the letter of the law, you must be without sin yourself.

But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." John 8:7 NAS

He also pointed out this same truth in the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector. In it, we see a common pitfall among those who want to use the law to judge others. They show themselves favoritism, justifying themselves while judging others, who they see as worse sinners. Jesus points out the failure of this too. The Pharisee in the story would have been justified if he had not compared himself to the tax collector and did as the tax collector did.

And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. "The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.' "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' "I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted." Luke 18:9-14 NAS

Mankind is not qualified to minister the letter of the law. There is only one that is qualified to minister the letter of the law, only one who is without sin and able to minister the letter of the law righteously: God.

There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor? James 4:12 NAS

Under the New Covenant of Grace and Truth

Jesus is the New High Priest, and He loved us and ministered grace and truth to us. If he had ministered the letter of the law, the woman caught in adultery would have been stoned. Jesus qualified us to love others as He loved us and to minister the Spirit of the law -- love, grace and truth -- not the letter of the law.

Such confidence before God is ours through Christ. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim that anything comes from us, but our competence comes from God. And He has qualified us as ministers of a

new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Cor 3:4-6 BSB

There is no condemnation in Christ in the Spirit of the law.

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life has set you free from the law of sin and death. Rom 8:1-2 BSB

Additional reasons we are NOT ministers of the “Old Covenant letter of the law” given by of Moses.

The Old Covenant law of Moses is now obsolete. It has faded away and is no longer in effect, having been replaced by the New Covenant of grace and truth.

For if glory was in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory! Indeed, what was once glorious [Old Covenant] has no glory now in comparison to the glory [New Covenant] that surpasses it. For if what was fading away [Old Covenant] came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which endures [New Covenant]! Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at the end of what was fading away [Old Covenant]. 2 Cor 3:10-13 BSB (clarification mine)

When read, the Old Covenant to this day places a veil over the hearer's hearts, hardens the heart, blinds them to Jesus's unconditional love and closes minds to the truth of the gospel.

But their minds were closed. For to this day the same veil remains at the reading of the old covenant. It has not been lifted, because only in Christ can it be removed. And even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 2 Cor 3:14-16 BSB

Therefore, Jesus called the Pharisees blind, as the veil produced by the Old Covenant of law was over their hearts and eyes.

Jesus's image is one of love, grace, and truth, not the letter of the law. We are transformed into His image by beholding His glory and walking not by the letter, but by the Spirit, as He did.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into His image with intensifying glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Cor 3: 17-18 BSB

The only one who wants believers to minister the letter of the law is Satan. Do you remember that Jesus told the Pharisees their father was Satan – [John 8:44](#)? The law keeps people sin conscious ([Rom 3:20](#)), when the Bible tells us believers are to no longer have a conscience focused on our sin debt ([Heb 10:2](#)). Because Jesus's sacrifice worked, we are to fix our eyes on Jesus ([Heb 12:2](#)), and have a conscience, mind, and thoughts ([2](#)

[Cor 10:5](#)) captivated by our forgiveness and His righteousness that we firmly stand in, unmovable and unshakeable. We are assured of our salvation because we know for certain it is all about Him. We stand on the rock when we trust only in Jesus. We stand on shifting sand if we add law keeping back as a requirement for salvation.

Paul told the foolish Galatians they had been severed from Christ and had fallen from grace when they were deceived into adding the law back in as a requirement for salvation.

Whoever are being justified in the Law, you are severed from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. Gal 5:4 BSB

Satan knows that sin got its power to kill us from the law:

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. 1 Cor 15:56 BSB

If we are in Christ, sin no longer has this dominion over us because we are under grace and not law ([Rom 6:14](#)), but if a believer can be deceived into thinking they are still under the law, they will live under false condemnation, in doubt, fear and worry.

The only place sin lies dead is apart from the law: For apart from the Law, sin is dead. Rom 7:8b BSB

God warns us not to minister the letter of the law. The letter of the law will condemn and kill a person for going one mile over the speed limit; a minister of the letter notices the slightest infraction, even a speck in their brother's eye. The person who lives by the letter is oblivious to the spirit of the law, the reason the law was written in the first place. This is the beam that is in their own eye, a complete disregard of the intentions of the author of the law.

Do not judge, lest you should be judged. For with that verdict you pronounce, you will be judged; and with that measure you measure, it will be measured to you. And why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye, but not notice the beam in your own eye? Or how shall you say to your brother, 'Permit that I might cast out the splinter from your eye,' and behold, the beam is in your eye? Hypocrite! First cast out the beam from your eye, and then you will see clearly to cast out the splinter from the eye of your brother. Matt 7:1-5 BSB

We have all heard of reaping and sowing. In other words, God has called us to minister the spirit of the law for our benefit as well as our neighbors'. If we minister condemnation and death by the letter of the law, we will be judged in the same manner. If we minister love, grace and truth, we will receive the same. We are not qualified to be the judge.

Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies [makes righteous]. Rom 8:33 BSB (clarification mine)

What will you minister? Life or death?

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* * *

18 - Letter Kills, Spirit Gives Life

This Bible study, like most I have written, is designed to rid the believer of any doubt regarding God's love for them and their complete and total forgiveness in Christ. It is only Satan who wants you to doubt your total forgiveness and righteousness in Christ which leads you to doubt God's love. Satan knows that doubting these truths is specifically what keeps a believer trapped in reoccurring sin and ineffective for God. These studies are designed to renew the mind.

This study goes in depth with abundant scripture to prove that once a person places their faith and trust in Jesus, they are no longer under the law: they are under grace where sin has no dominion over them. The Bible is clear that sin is defined as transgression of the law. Where there is no law, no transgression of the law can take place and a person's sins are not counted against them. We are called to walk in the spirit of the written law which is love. Get your Bible out and study with me.

Who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life 2 Cor 3:6

All laws have a spirit, the intent of the author, upon which they rest. Most legitimate laws have as their spirit the protection of all parties involved. For example, the spirit/intent of a speed-limit law is to protect life. The spirit is the sole reason for the existence of the letter—the written law.

We are clearly told that the spirit of God's law, including the Ten Commandments, is love in the following verses:

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" Galatians 5:14

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law Rom 13:8-10

The fact that love is the intent and spirit of all of God's laws reveals to us that God's laws were never meant to harm us or be used against us. I believe that God's law was made for man, not man for the law.

"And he said to them, 'The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath' Mark 2:27

If man could love as God loves, there would be no need for the letter of the law. However, due to our inherited Adamic nature, we cannot ([Rom 5:12-21](#)). Therefore, God gave us the letter to guard us against each other's fallen nature, reveal our fallen inherited nature to us and thus lead us to Jesus ([Gal 3:23-25](#)).

God's written law is perfect, holy and just. Yet problems occur. We cannot keep the law, and when dealing with others, we often ignore the spirit the law is founded upon. Just like the Pharisees, we can use the letter to kill, steal and destroy. By manipulating the letter, we often break the spirit upon which it rests.

It is important to note the following: "When one obeys the letter of the law but not the spirit, one is obeying the literal interpretation of the words (the "letter") of the [law](#), but not necessarily the *intent* of those who wrote the law." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letter_and_Spirit_of_the_law

Two perfect examples given by Jesus of man obeying the letter while violating the spirit and thus grieving Jesus are found in the stories of the woman caught in adultery and the Good Samaritan. In both cases, the Pharisees completely ignored the spirit/intent of God's law and focused on the letter. Ignoring the spirit of God's law, while wielding the letter in judgment, misses God's way totally and is always sin.

While the law is perfect, in the hands of fallen man, everything ends up being distorted and abused. The worst example of this type of abuse by the Pharisees is when they used the law to condemn and crucify Jesus— the author of the law.

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." John 19:7

In [2 Cor 3:7-11](#), God calls the Old Covenant of law delivered by Moses "a ministry of death carved in letters on stones" and "a ministry of condemnation being brought to an end," succeeded by "the glory of the ministry of righteousness" ([Heb 8:7, 13](#)).

Jesus established the Father's will with His own blood; he took away the Old Covenant by establishing the New Covenant of Truth and Grace ([Heb 10:9](#), [Luke 22:20](#), [John 1:17](#)). He revealed in word and action that love is the spirit of the law.

"Conversely, when one obeys the Spirit of the law but not the letter, one is doing what the authors of the law intended, though not necessarily adhering to the literal wording." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letter_and_Spirit_of_the_law

The letter was only a shadow, not the reality. The reality is the love Christ displayed, the spirit of the law.

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Heb 10:1

It would be ridiculous for Jesus to come and only fulfill the letter of the law, a shadow of the reality. Jesus came to fulfill the spirit of the law and did so when He died for His enemies, all sinners.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8

Keeping the letter of the law seems easy when we understand walking in the Spirit until we understand that loving as God loves us is a fruit of the Spirit coming from right believing, not a work of the flesh.

You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Matt 5:38-48

Only a heart transformed by God's love (We love because he first loved us, according to [1 John 4:19](#)) can love as God does, thus fulfilling the spirit as the author desired and by default, the letter too. The spirit of love has set us free from the letter of death.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins 1 John 4:10

But I say, walk by the Spirit [LOVE], and you will not [SIN] gratify the desires of the flesh Gal 5:16

Christians are under grace and not the letter of the law.

And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. 2 Cor 3:3

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

We also know that the law is made not for the righteous. 1 Tim 1:9a

The law (of Moses) is made for those who have not accepted Jesus as their Savior to show them they need a savior. Paul said he did not know sin but by the law. The law is designed to make unbelievers aware of their sin ([Rom 3:20](#)) and to protect us from each other's fallen natures as the law guides people to Jesus ([Gal 3:24](#)).

The law (of Moses) is for those who have not been made righteous by their faith in Christ, "but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the sexually

immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine” ([1 Tim 1:9b](#)). (emphasis mine)

Worship: [Stand in Your Love - Josh Baldwin](#)

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[Christians Are Not Qualified to be Ministers of the Letter of the Law](#)

[Love and Grace Open Closed Doors and Give Life](#)

* * *

[19 - Do You Know the Spirit of All of God's Laws?](#)

If you love the Ten Commandments and want to keep the law to please God out of a sincere heart, this is a must-read for you.

If we do not know the spirit of God’s laws, we cannot serve our Lord as He desires, and we risk ignorantly violating His desire on a regular basis even when we keep the letter of the law to please Him.

Every law has behind it a reason: the intent, the purpose that the author had for writing the law. In other words, there must be a reason to write the law in the first place. This is called the spirit of the law. It is undeniable that the author’s original intent behind the law, the spirit of the law, is the only thing that can truly fulfill the law and truly honor the lawgiver. If we can discover the spirit of God’s law’s, we can truly honor God’s original intent and purpose. On the other hand, if we remain ignorant to His original intent, we risk repeatedly violating His intent just like the most sincere and best letter of the law keepers who ever lived did.

The best law keepers who ever lived were the Pharisees. While they could not keep the letter perfectly, keeping their sins in the dark as we all do and being judgmental, most were very sincere about wanting to please God by keeping the letter of the law. The problem was that they were ignorant of God’s original reason, the intent for writing the law. They were totally blind to the spirit of God’s law. This left them unable to fulfill God’s purpose for writing the law, often doing just the opposite of God’s intent as they enforced the letter of the law. Their focus on the letter and total ignorance of the spirit of the law is what led Jesus to be broken-hearted over their hardness of heart and angry with them on several occasions. They had used the letter to lead His flock in the opposite direction God wanted them to go.

The good news is that the Bible is extremely clear as to God’s original purpose for giving us the letter of the law: the spirit behind the letter.

The following verses and others make it crystal clear that **the spirit of all of Gods laws is love**. It is undeniable that the only thing that can fulfill the whole law, God’s purpose behind His written law, is love.

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’ Gal 5:14

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law Rom 13:8-10

There is no denying the truth these verses hold. It cannot be ignored if one truly wants to serve the King of kings. Love is the spirit of the law: the only thing that fulfills all of God's laws.

Love Casts a Shadow

So, let's say you wanted people with an *inherited fallen sin nature, bent towards selfishness and rebellion*, to love one another and not hurt each other. Do you think telling them to love one another would effectively protect life? What if you made some rules with no consequences: would they obey the rules? No. So, what is the only thing that could be done to enforce love on such a selfish group? Give them rules with consequences that a selfish nature, bent on first protecting self, would want to avoid. It is the only answer that I can see, and it is what God did.

What type of laws would you need to write to honor "love?" How about to not murder, lie, steal, covet or steal your neighbor's wife? These would each be a part of the shadow love casts. If we love our neighbor, we will do none of these things to them. But with each point -- do not steal, for example -- we see a shadow of God's original intent for writing the law, but not the full reality. If we simply do not steal, we are doing good, but we are not fulfilling God's original purpose for writing the law. Every written law is only a shadow cast by God's original purpose of love.

For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near. Heb 10:1 NAS

Shadows have no substance and only exist because the object that casts them exists.

Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day— things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ. Col 2:16-17 NAS

It is easy to see that the letter of the law is only a shadow of the reality. It can never fulfill the author's original intent for writing the law. God desires that love will prevail among His creation. Love is much more than not hurting one another. Love goes out of its way to help one another. Jesus's death for us while we were still enemies of God is the reality of God's love for us. Jesus came and walked by the spirit of the law as a living testament to God's nature and heart for us.

Walking by the spirit of the law usually keeps the letter of the law by default. But the spirit, God's original intent, is always primary over the shadow, the letter of the law.

Therefore, when it appeared to man that Jesus violated God's letter of the law by healing on the Sabbath, saving the woman caught in adultery (the letter of the law demanded to be stoned), and in teaching love your enemies and the Good Samaritan story, Jesus was actually walking in and teaching love, the spirit of the law that fulfills God's original purpose for the written law.

Here is God's definition of love which clearly shows that the letter of the law is only a shadow of God's original purpose.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. 1 Cor 13: 4-8a NIV

We know that the shadow we see in the letter of the law can achieve the desired effects of protecting life, but a shadow is not perfect. The letter of the law is not always patient, not always kind, can lead us to be boastful and proud, can be self-seeking and easily angered. The letter does keep a record of wrongs and does not always protect. The letter of the law can often fail too. So, we see in the letter the imperfection and limited scope of a shadow.

While the spirit of the law casts a shadow leaning towards life, the letter of the law casts a shadow of its own: the shadow of condemnation and death.

But if the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it was, how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to be even more with glory? For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory. 2 Cor 3:7-9 NAS

In Christ, we have moved beyond the letter of the law and are called to walk in the reality of the spirit of the law. Therefore, God has commanded us to walk by the spirit and not the letter. He has not qualified Christians to minister the letter of the law that brings condemnation and death. He has qualified us to minister the spirit of the law that brings life. The word minister/servant here means a waiter. We are commanded and qualified to serve up life, not death.

Who also made us adequate [qualified] as servants [minister] of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Cor 3:6 NAS

The spirit of the law is much higher and is the calling of every Christian. We are called to abide by and enforce the spirit over the letter every time, even those times we need to break the letter to do so.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35 NAS

So, the next time you are headed to church for service and you see someone broke down and desperate on the side of the road, missing church to stop and help them is walking by the spirit and not the letter. It is okay to do.

What will you walk by, the letter or the spirit? Will you serve up life by the spirit as God commands, or death by the letter as Satan would have us do?

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. 1 Cor 13:1-3 NAS

Worship: [Chris Tomlin - Nobody Loves Me Like You](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[What is Maturity: Knowing God's Holiness or God's Love and Grace?](#)

[Walking by the Spirit is God's Will for Your Life, Guaranteed](#)

[Love is a Much Higher Standard than the Letter of the Law](#)

* * *

20 - Can You Declare Your Righteousness in Christ When You Fail?

The people will declare, "The LORD is the source of all my righteousness and strength." And all who were angry with him will come to him and be ashamed. Isa 45:24 NLT

When you find yourself failing in the midst of reoccurring sin, can you say this and believe it?

I Am The Righteousness of God in Christ!

If you cannot say it and believe it when you have just sinned, you do not believe you are saved by grace alone through faith. ([Ephesians 2:8-9](#)) You still think it is somewhat about you and your actions.

In opposition to what the Bible teaches, you are sin conscious instead of righteousness or Jesus conscious. This grieves the Holy Spirit because He convicts believers of their righteousness. The enemy has deceived you into looking at yourself instead of the perfection of Jesus, who paid for all your sins once and for all.

Think about it. If we are focused on our sins, we do not really believe we have been forgiven. We are saying what Jesus did was not enough to wash us clean.

If you want to stop sinning and what you have done to date has not worked, try God's way instead. All the time, and especially the next time you fail, in the midst of your sin, make this your declaration:

I Am the Righteousness of God in Christ!

The enemy will try to stop you, trying to get you to look away from Jesus, focusing instead on your dead flesh. Don't let him! Keep your focus on the spotless lamb that took your place and exchanged your sinfulness for His righteousness.

Stating this firmly, while the enemy and every religious bone in your body try to fight you, will transform you by faith into the image of Christ.

It lets God know you really believe it is all about Jesus. It lets Satan know you believe God and slams the door shut on his attacks. Who can condemn those who God has justified? It lets you know that God's love for you is not dependent on your actions. He sees you in the perfection of Jesus.

It takes little or no faith to declare our righteousness in Christ when we are doing everything right. On the other hand, it takes sound and sincere faith to declare our righteousness in Christ when we fail. God wants us to live from faith to faith, walking in faith, even when we fail.

I guarantee that if you do this, transforming your core belief, all the false beliefs built on this core false belief will fall away too. You will reign over sin instead of sin reigning over you.

This is the way to the freedom Jesus died to give you, my friend. Renew your mind to the truth. Say it now by faith, keeping it constantly on your mind and lips until you really believe it:

I Am the Righteousness of God in Christ!

Once you believe it, peace and joy, along with everything else you seek, will follow.

The people will declare, "The LORD is the source of all my righteousness and strength." And all who were angry with him will come to him and be ashamed. Isa 45:24 NLT

Worship: [Cornerstone - Hillsong Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[The Holy Spirit Does Not Convict a Believer of Their Sins](#)

[Sin Consciousness Grieves the Holy Spirit](#)

[Literally Righteous in Christ](#)

* * *

21 - How to Take Thoughts Captive to the Obedience of Christ

I agree we should always do the next right thing and pay attention to our thinking. But I also am a big fan of trusting what the Bible states and vetting all preaching I hear through the Word of God. There is an important difference between what is normally preached and what the Word states when it comes to taking thoughts captive.

Traditionally it is taught that Christians are to take every thought captive to obey Christ. First, let me ask how you have done at this task. For most, the answer is poorly.

The truth is, the verse in question is not telling us to make our thoughts obey Christ. It is telling us to captivate our thoughts and minds with Jesus's obedience, His finished work on the cross, and His righteousness that makes us righteous in Him. This should always be our focus, the song on our hearts and minds. When our minds are captivated by something, they are totally focused on that topic all the time. This is the armor of God and how we stop the attacks of the enemy cold.

Let me back this up with scripture. Some translations say *take every thought captive to obey Christ*, but they are in error when the Greek is read. For example, two of the translations that have it in error are the NIV and NLT.

Two examples that are in error:

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Cor 10:5 NIV

We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. 2 Cor 10:5 NLT

Two versions that have it correct are the NAS and the KJV.

We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. 2 Cor 10:5 NAS

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. 2 Cor 10:5 KJV

Can you see the difference? It is enormous.

1) The incorrect translations tell us to *take every thought to make it obedient to Christ*.

2) The correct translations tell us to *take thoughts captive to Jesus's obedience on the cross that finished the work for us*.

Number two, the correct translation, is talking about Jesus's obedience. Number one, the incorrect and most preached, is talking about our obedience. You can read the literal Greek to English translation for yourself here: https://biblehub.com/text/2_corinthians/10-5.htm.

Whose Obedience Have You Placed Your Faith In?

Before accepting Jesus, we all had our faith placed in our own ability to obey God. One day, we realized the truth and admitted we were powerless to fulfill God's perfect standard. We realized we were guilty and shifted our faith from our ability onto Jesus's finished work on the cross.

The incorrect translation of this verse shifts our faith back to our ability while the correct translation keeps our faith where it belongs, in Jesus where we are righteous,

holy, sanctified and perfected. It is not our perfect obedience to the law but Jesus's perfect obedience that our focus needs to be. We are to keep our eyes on the solution, not the problem. We are to be Christ-conscious and righteousness conscious: not sin conscious.

The verse we are discussing is offered by Paul in the context of spiritual warfare.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. 2 Cor 10:3-5 NAS

Our weapons are not of the flesh: not of our own ability. It is certainly not our obedience that gives us the power to destroy fortresses. Paul states several times that he boasted in his weakness and Christ crucified so that the power of God would rest upon him. Christ's obedience gives us divine power to destroy everything raised up against the knowledge of God. We are to keep our focus on our righteousness in Christ, though Satan does everything he can to shift it back to our lack of obedience.

Note, the verse in question tells us to take every thought captive to **the obedience of Christ**. If it meant taking every thought captive to **obey** Christ, as the incorrect translations state, would it not say to take *every wrong thought captive to obey Christ*? Why would I need to take captive even my correct thoughts to obey Christ? I submit that this verse is clearly telling us to think on Jesus's obedience: His finished work that makes us righteous all the time -- to see ourselves in Him, in victory, by faith.

Victory in our spiritual battle comes when our thoughts and minds are captivated with Jesus's finished work on the cross and we see ourselves as God sees us: righteous, holy, sanctified and perfected in Christ right now. This means we meditate on His finished work all the time, just like Paul did.

We Are Free

We are set free by believing the truth that Jesus died for our sins and rose for our justification and righteousness. We cannot perfect ourselves by legalistic living. The incorrect translation places us back under the law where we experience guilt and condemnation when we fail, while the correct translation properly applied in our life sets us free.

Paul tells us we received the Holy Spirit (were saved) by hearing the gospel mixed with faith. He then tells us it is futile to try and perfect ourselves by the flesh through law keeping.

You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by

hearing with faith? Even so Abraham BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. Gal 3:1-5 NAS

We are already righteous, holy, sanctified and perfected in the Spirit by His shed blood. ***The flesh will never be perfected; that is why it must die.***

What Would it Look Like to Take Thoughts Captive to Christ's Obedience?

Therefore, we are to take every thought captive to Christ's obedience, not ours. Remind yourself that Jesus obeyed perfectly for you: as you, in your place. When Satan points out your failures and tries to bring thoughts of guilt, fear, condemnation and worry, remind Satan of your righteousness in Christ. When he tries to interject a thought that God is angry with you because of your failures, remind him that all your sins have been punished on the cross in the body of Jesus and God will never be angry with you. Tell him that all your guilt and condemnation fell on Jesus. It is not about you; it is all about Jesus's finished work. Trust God and rest in it. Think about who you are in Christ all the time. This is the armor of God put on by faith.

Under the Old Covenant, if the sin offering had worked, they would no longer be conscious of their sins; they would be conscious only of their forgiveness.

Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? Heb 10:2

In the New Covenant, the perfect sin offering (Jesus) finished the work. Therefore, we are to no longer be conscious of our sins; we are to be conscious of our righteousness in Christ, our forgiveness. We are to be focused on Jesus's sacrifice that has perfected us for all time. To be sin conscious is to doubt God's finished work and to grieve the Holy Spirit.

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Heb 10:14 NAS

Have you ever had a song stuck in your head and couldn't seem to get it out of there? The best way to get rid of it is to sing (think about) another song. The same goes with renewing your mind from sin consciousness to righteousness and forgiveness consciousness. When your failures pop into your head and Satan accuses you, sing a new song called, "Jesus Paid for That One Too." Meditate on the verses that tell you the truth of God's Word. You are completely forgiven, righteous, holy, sanctified and perfected in Christ. Captivate your mind with Jesus's finished work on the cross.

Think About It

So, if you are like me, you have tried to take thoughts captive to obey Christ. The question is: how well have you done? When you fail, does it bring guilt and condemnation like the law always does? Why not think about this message today, see where you can apply it in your thought life, and let God do the rest?

Worship: [I Surrender - Hillsong Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[How to Stop Being a Double Minded Christian](#)
[Self-Occupied or Christ Occupied?](#)
[How to Defeat Satan on the Battlefield for Your Mind](#)

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22 - God Forgets Our Sins for His Own Sake

I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. Isaiah 43:25

"From the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." Jer 31:34b

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity. Psalm 32:1-2a

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more. Heb 8:12

Then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Heb 10:17

*Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord will **NEVER** (ou mÄ") count against them.* Rom 4:8 NIV (ou mÄ" is a double negative – never ever)

Love does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 1 Cor 13:5

We all know the suffering and bitterness that comes from counting and remembering the sins of others. Could it be that unforgiveness would cause God pain and suffering? Therefore, for his own sake, he chooses not to remember our sins.

Thank you, Father, for assuring me that you are not holding my sins against me. For my own sake, help me to be like Jesus and do the same with all I encounter. Let me not judge or foster doubt but instead preach your message of reconciliation, directing all to your love, mercy, grace and forgiveness that is in Christ. God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (See [2 Cor 5:19](#))

For those who have not believed the great news from God offered through Jesus Christ, the door is wide open for you.

Repent [change your mind and believe] therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out. Acts 3:19 (clarification mine)

Worship: [Here As In Heaven](#) | [Live](#) | [Elevation Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:
[God Sees a Believer's Faith, Not Their Sins](#)

[A Christian's Sins are NOT Counted Against Them](#)
[Can We Lose Our Salvation for Not Confessing Our Sin \(1 John 1:9\)?](#)

* * *

23 - How Do Christians Dilute the Power of the Gospel in Their Lives?

Answer: By mixing the New Covenant with the Old Covenant as if they are one.

No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results. No one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost and the skins as well; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins. Mark 2:22 NAS

The verses above were spoken to the Pharisees as a reply to their questions as to why Jesus ate with sinners and tax collectors and His disciples did not fast. In other words, the Pharisees were saying, "Why are you hanging out with the riff-raff when those who are religious and know the law of God are here too? We are the ones right with God, and those people are steeped in sin since birth."

Jesus's explanation is that you cannot mix the New with the Old or both will be lost.

The Pharisees knew the Old Covenant law of Moses inside and out; they were the old wineskins. They were unbending, hard and brittle just like the law of Moses. Jesus needed new wineskins for the New Covenant of grace and truth. He knew that if He mixed the New with the Old, all would be lost. Jesus wanted new wineskins to establish the church. The twelve apostles were the new wineskins, men who were not steeped in and hardened by the law. These were men who hungered and thirsted for grace: men that would gladly show grace, because grace had been shown to them.

The Old Covenant and the New Covenant contradict each other and, like oil and water, cannot be mixed. If I mix fine oil with pure water, neither is good for anything. By mixing them I have spoiled both.

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace. Rom 11:6 NAS

The Old Covenant is about self-righteousness.

Those of the Old Covenant trusted in themselves that they were righteous and judged others, placing others under the letter of the law and condemnation.

And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or

even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.” Luke 18:9-12 NAS

Those of the Old Covenant were raised under the hard and stone-cold law. They could not give away what they did not have, and thus would never mix with those who hungered and thirsted for mercy and grace.

“But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’ I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18:13-14 NAS

The New Covenant is about seeing our own righteousness as filthy rags and humbling ourselves completely under God’s righteousness found only in Jesus Christ. Christians lose the power of the gospel in their lives by mixing the two covenants, just like the Galatians, who Paul called fools.

You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Gal 3:1-5 NAS

The Old Covenant hardens the heart, like we see in the Pharisees, and places a veil over the hearts of the hearers even today. The veil spoken of is what separated man from God to protect man before the cross. It was represented by the veil in the holy of holies that was torn in two when Jesus died on the cross. However, when the veil is torn and pulled back to reveal the love of God, but a person does not believe it, they will still live like the veil is in place: separated from God in their heart by their fear of the holiness of God.

Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in our speech, and are not like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel would not look intently at the end of what [the old covenant] was fading away. But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. 2 Cor 12-18 NAS

Can you see how a message mixed with Old Covenant law and New Covenant grace and truth is contradictory? It is a message of self-righteousness mixed with righteousness by grace in Christ alone. You read the Old Covenant law, and a veil remains over your

heart; read the New Covenant and it is removed; read the Old and the veil is back, etc. Reading both produces a double-minded message unless the person knows for certain how to divide the word. God tells us that a person with a divided mind should not expect to receive anything from God.

*For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. James 1:7-8
NAS*

Mixed, the Old Covenant law cuts off a person from the grace of Christ found in the New Covenant.

You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. Gal 5:4 NAS

When Paul states that the Galatians were severed from Christ, he is talking about the grace of Christ. The Galatians had cut themselves off from God's abundance of grace and His righteousness in their minds and thoughts. They did this when they were deceived into adding the law and their own self-righteousness to grace as a requirement for salvation. Advocating keeping the letter of the law instead of walking by the spirit of the law is self-righteousness. Self-righteousness and salvation by grace through faith alone are self-defeating and contradictory. They do not mix.

When we add the law to the gospel, we end up like the Pharisee, standing at the altar comparing ourselves to the tax collector. Instead of admitting we still fall short, we end up justifying ourselves by comparing ourselves to other believers who we see as bigger sinners. This removes us from the protection of God's abundant grace in our minds and throws the door wide open for Satan to attack us. In the Old Covenant, Satan could legally accuse a person every time they failed. Under the New Covenant, when Satan tries to accuse and attack us about our failure, we point him to Jesus's sacrifice on the cross and our faith in His righteousness alone. ***This is the power of the gospel stopping Satan cold.*** Once you are established in the truth of His righteousness, Satan will leave you alone and roam around looking for someone else he can devour.

How to Have the Power of Christ Rest upon Us

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." **Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.** For the sake of Christ, then, **I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities.** For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Cor 12:9-10*

For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. 1 Cor 2:2 NAS

Paul boasted in two things, his weakness and Christ crucified: the gospel. This is where the power of Christ is found for our lives.

So that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God. 1 Cor 2:5 NAS

Instead of boasting in their weakness and the power of Christ's righteousness alone, like Paul did, the average Christian boasts in Christ plus the power of their own righteousness: their ability to keep the law and sin less than others. This is how they lose the power of the gospel -- the power of His righteousness in their lives.

The power of Christ and victory in this life is found in the abundance of grace and the free gift of His righteousness alone. Christians will never reign in life as they are supposed to if they mix the Old with the New.

For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. Rom 5:17
NAS

Do you want the power of Christ in your life?

Commit to studying the New Covenant exclusively for one year. Do not study or read from the Old Covenant during this period. This means you should not do a standard daily Bible reading plan that mixes everything like it is one Covenant. Like Paul, you need to be firmly established in the New in your mind, in His love and His righteousness. Then you will understand how to correctly divide the word and be able to understand the New that replaced the Old. After that, you will understand how to read the Old Covenant for what it is: Christ concealed, a shadow of the truth, not the reality. The Old emphasizes God's holiness and is filled with shadows of the truth that point to Jesus. It is very valuable in growing our faith once we are established in the New. The New emphasizes the love of God found in Christ. The Pharisees were so blinded by the holiness of God that they did not recognize His love. This was the veil that covered their hearts.

For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near. Heb 10:1 NAS

Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day— things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ. Col 2:16-17 NAS

Jesus shed His blood to bring us the New Covenant that replaced the Old.

And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20 NAS

If you want the power of Christ to rest upon you:

- 1). Study the book of Hebrews in depth. It is all about the New Covenant. Study it once a month for the next year. Pay extra close attention to Hebrews 10.
- 2). Focus on New Covenant studies alone for the next year.
- 3). Listen to New Covenant sermons exclusively for one year.

Worship: [Even When It Hurts \(Praise Song\) Live - Hillsong UNITED](#)

More New Covenant Bible Studies that Apply:

[My Biggest Error as a Christian and How to Avoid It](#)

[Naked on The Cross, The Power of God](#)

[How Much Law Does It Take to Make Grace of No Effect?](#)

* * *

24 - What is The One Thing That Keeps a Believer in Sin?

This Bible study, like most I have written, is designed to rid the believer of any doubt regarding God's love for them and their complete and total forgiveness in Christ. It is only Satan who wants you to doubt your total forgiveness and righteousness in Christ which leads you to doubt God's love. Satan knows that doubting these truths is specifically what keeps a believer trapped in reoccurring sin and ineffective for God. These studies are designed to renew the mind.

This study goes in depth with abundant scripture to prove that any doubt about our full forgiveness is the only thing that keeps us trapped in reoccurring sin. Get your Bible out and study with me.

Study

There is **one reason** the Bible teaches as to why believers fail to produce the fruits needed to defeat sin in their lives: **doubting their complete and total forgiveness in Christ.**

1. We are to love others as Christ loves us. The Bible tells us that love is the only way to fulfill all of God's laws. This means that the spirit of all of God's laws is love. Our enemy will do all he can to keep us from walking in the Spirit.

*Owe no one anything, except to love each other, **for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.** For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; **therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.** Rom 13:8-10*

***For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** Gal 5:14*

2. If we think we are still under the letter of the law of Moses, sin will have dominion over us. To have dominion means to control or to have power over.

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

3. If we don't believe we are completely and totally forgiven of much, like the woman in Luke 7:47, we will live in fear and under condemnation. We will be unable to love much, and since love is the only thing that fulfills the law, we will fall short.

*Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. **But he who is forgiven little, loves little.*** Luke 7:47

4. Being established in the truth that we are forgiven much and loved by God the Father as much as he loves Jesus ([John 17:23](#)) is the only thing that will produce the fruits we need to overcome outward acts of sin. These qualities are not works of the flesh. They are fruits of the Spirit—fruits of right believing that occur naturally once we are anchored in our complete forgiveness.

The following verses list the fruits we need to stop sin in our lives.

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 2 Peter 1:5-7

5. If we lack the qualities listed, the Bible lists one simple reason. We have forgotten we have been forgiven.

*For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, **having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.*** 2 Peter 1:9

To be cleansed by God is to be made holy by God.

Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy." Acts 10:15 NAS

If we do not think we have been fully forgiven by God, we will have a hard time believing God really loves us.

6. The enemy is the only one who wants us to doubt our complete salvation. Over and over again Jesus said, "Oh you of little faith." He never said, "Oh you of little law keeping, little prayer, little fasting, etc."

"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Matt 14:31

7. The key is to believe the truth in the very clear scriptures that tell us that if we believe, we are saved. Never let unclear scriptures override the very clear ones.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

The enemy will do all he can to twist unclear scripture and create doubt.

I can guarantee you from experience that once you understand that God the Father loves you as much as he loves Jesus ([John 17:23](#)) and that you are totally forgiven, those other unclear scriptures will become very clear and fully confirm the clear and simple truth in [John 3:16](#).

Once you understand and believe you are completely forgiven, you will realize how much God the Father loves you.

8. Revisiting this verse: “For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace” ([Rom 6:14](#)), we learn that we are under grace and not the law. Where there is no law, the Bible is very clear that sin is not counted against man.

*For sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, **but sin is not counted where there is no law.*** Rom 5:13

*For the law brings wrath, **but where there is no law there is no transgression.*** Rom 4:15

For all who have sinned without the law, will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.
Rom 2:12

*For **apart from the law, sin lies dead.*** Rom 7:8b

This fully coincides with God’s main clauses of the New Covenant:

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more” Heb 10:17 and *“...in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them...”* 2 Cor 5:19.

The point is: once a person comes to Christ, their past sins are totally forgiven and they are removed from the dominion of the law and placed under grace, where their future sins are not counted against them.

9. As opposed to trusting that the Spirit will keep us and what is clear in God’s Word, the normal and fearful human response to this truth of total forgiveness is to claim that a person in this position will fall from grace and into sin. Ironically, the Bible teaches that a fall from grace is not diving into sin, but instead is abandoning grace alone and going back to the law in full or in part. We see this truth played out as Paul writes to some believers in Galatia, who were being tricked into thinking they had to go back to keeping parts of the Law. False teachers had misled them, and Paul set them straight:

*You are severed from Christ, **you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.*** Gal 5:4.

Grace and law are contradictory and do not mix.

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace. Rom 11:6

10. The fruits of grace teach us to live a godly life.

***For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,** training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession, who are zealous for good works.* Titus 2:11-14

11. Have you ever heard a Christian telling someone they doubt the salvation of another or themselves? Maybe referring to them as not a real believer? When they do this, it's often based on having seen the person sin. *With good intentions*, they point the person back to the law to correct the problem. Unfortunately, this is unbiblical and absolutely the worst thing to do to a person who has placed their faith and trust in Jesus as their savior. Let me explain using scripture.

We are saved by what we believed, and we are transformed by what we believe.

I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? Gal 3:2-3

If we lead anyone to doubt God's clear words in [John 3:16](#) and other very clear verses, we help the enemy.

Believe this verse:

I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake. 1 John 2:12

People cannot be transformed into the image of Christ if they doubt Jesus's own words as truth. When we place more weight on scriptures that are unclear and create doubt, we are dividing the Word against itself. Jesus said, "*A house divided against itself is ruined*" (Matt 12:25). The enemy is the only one who wants to pit God's Word against itself to make us doubt our salvation. The enemy is on the side of false teachers.

Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions. 1 Tim 1:6-7

The law is not made for the righteous and just. Those who have placed their trust in Christ are made righteous without any righteous acts, just as Jesus was made sin without sinning.

Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just [righteous] but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly. 1 Tim 1:8

12. Inheritance is about bloodline and not actions. We inherited a fallen nature from Adam. We were made sinners and were born into a fallen world with no choice of our own. Once we are born again, we are co-heirs with Christ ([Rom 8:17](#)). We are made righteous solely by what Jesus did and believing in him.

For as by the one man's [Adam] disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's [Jesus] obedience the many will be made righteous. Rom 5:19

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor 5:21

We reign in this life over sin and much more by receiving God's abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness.

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.
Rom 5:17

So the next time you see the person in the mirror or a brother or sister in Christ who has fallen into sin, don't point them back to the law, where sin comes alive ([Rom 7:9](#)), so they will doubt the clear word of God ([Rom 10:9](#)) and their salvation and fall from grace by going back to the law ([Gal 5:4](#)), thus helping the enemy.

Instead, encourage them in the faith, remind them of their righteousness in Christ and share the truths in this article with them. God loves them, and they are totally forgiven for their past sins. They are under grace and not the law, so sin no longer has dominion over them ([Rom 6:14](#)). God is not counting their sins and holding them against them ([Heb 10:17](#)).

Let God's perfect love cast out all fear of punishment for breaking the law.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 1 John 4:18

Encourage them to believe Jesus, believing that they are completely forgiven and righteous in Christ.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Righteous because of one man's obedience.

For as by the one man's disobedience [Adam] the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience [Jesus] the many will be made righteous. Rom 5:19

Once established in God's complete forgiveness and great love, they will be transformed into the image of Christ over time.

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Cor 3:18

Worship: [So Will I \(100 Billion X\) - Hillsong Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[If Sin Has Dominion in Your Life, You are Living Under the Law, Not Grace](#)
[How Grace Defeated Sin in My Life](#)
[How to Defeat Temptation Under Grace](#)

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[25 - Are You Praying for The Wrong Kind of Peace?](#)

I believe that most Christians, including myself, usually seek an inferior kind of peace. We pray for things to change and improve. We pray for bad things to stop and good things to happen. I completely understand why we do this, but we need to understand that we are praying for a second-rate kind of peace: *circumstantial peace*.

Circumstantial peace is the world's kind of peace. If things are going well, we have peace. However, when things go badly, when we need it the most, circumstantial peace is nowhere to be found. Circumstantial peace is the only kind of peace to which the world has access. People have been chasing it their entire lives. The world seeks trips to island beaches, solid careers, more than enough money and sound retirement accounts to name a few.

If we trust circumstances for peace, we give circumstances the power and authority to steal our peace. If we trust Jesus for our peace, circumstances can never steal our peace.

Circumstantial peace is not the peace that Jesus left his followers. As Christians, we have access to Jesus's own peace (shalom) that surpasses all understanding.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:7

Now, which would you rather have: peace based on perfect circumstances or Jesus's peace that surpasses all understanding in any circumstance?

Not long ago, I decided that I would much rather have Jesus's peace that surpasses all understanding. That may seem like an obvious choice until you realize it means choosing not to pray for a change in circumstances: not asking for an increased income, a more comfortable home, a better car and on and on. Honestly, it was a bit scary because we all like good circumstances, but I knew I had to make a choice. I also knew the only way I would break free from my need for the world's peace, and to experience His peace, was to rely on and trust Jesus alone. My whole life I had prayed for circumstances to change so I would have peace. Now I prayed for His peace in the midst of my circumstances: the peace that lets us rise above fear, worry, and any circumstance.

One of the main reasons I said this prayer is because I knew things would go wrong in my future. I will see and experience tragedy, friends and family who become ill, death and other things. I decided that if I could walk in Jesus's peace during these times, I could be of value, assistance, and comfort to those who were rocked by the circumstances.

Since I said my prayer, circumstances have often not been good. A couple of major things have gotten quite worse and at times my prayers have vacillated. But God has led me to a place where I realize I cannot afford to be worried, fearful, troubled, angry or negative in any way. I know I am on the right path and have a sense that God has plans to take me all the way.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27

There is good news when it comes to circumstances, though. While the presence of His peace is not generated by circumstances, His peace can and does change circumstances when it shows up.

So, what kind of peace do you want? The world's second-rate circumstantial peace, or the peace which surpasses all understanding? The peace that will be present when things go wrong or circumstantial peace that is nowhere to be found when things go wrong? What kind of peace will you seek and pray for today?

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Col 3:15

Peace be with you. John 20:26b

Worship: [Peace Be Still - Lauren Daigle](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Chasing Circumstantial Peace Leaves Us with No Peace](#)

[See Yourself as God Does: Stop Doubting, Rest in Him, Walk in Peace](#)

[How to Walk in Jesus's Peace No Matter What](#)

* * *

26 - How Does a Person Fall from Grace?

Have you ever read a headline about a popular Christian who has fallen from grace? Isn't the popular belief that a fall from grace means a person took advantage of God's grace and sinned?

I once believed that interpretation too. However, the Biblical way we fall from grace is to attempt to be justified by the law.

You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. Gal 5:4 NAS

We see it also in this verse, where it seems that it would make more sense if it said those who sinned were under the curse. But it does not say that. It is those who are of the works of the law that are under a curse.

*For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM." Gal 3:10
NAS*

Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, "THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." However, the Law is not of faith;

on the contrary, "HE WHO PRACTICES THEM SHALL LIVE BY THEM." Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us— for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE"— in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Gal 3:11 -14 NAS

For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. Rom 4:13 NAS

The only option the Bible offers for righteousness is by faith.

Worship: [Grace To Grace - Hillsong Worship](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies:

[Can a Christian Lose their Salvation by Sinning? NO](#)

[Sins Are NOT Counted Under Grace](#)

[How Grace Defeated Sin in My Life](#)

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27 - The Holy Spirit DOES NOT Convict Christians of Sin

This Bible study, like most I have written, is designed to rid the believer of any doubt regarding God's love for them and their complete and total forgiveness in Christ. It is only Satan who wants you to doubt your total forgiveness and righteousness in Christ which leads you to doubt God's love. Satan knows that doubting these truths is specifically what keeps a believer trapped in reoccurring sin and ineffective for God. These studies are designed to renew the mind.

The Bible is clear that the Holy Spirit does not convict a believer of sin. If your sins are being pointed out to you, it is the accuser of the brethren ([Rev 12:10](#)) and the law of Moses ([John 5:45](#)) in a mind and conscience that is not renewed. Scripture is clear that the Holy Spirit convicts a believer of their righteousness in Christ, not sin. The Bible states that we are under grace and not the law. Scripture is clear that, under grace, your sins are not counted by God. The Holy Spirit is your comforter, advocate and helper if your faith is in Jesus. The only people he convicts of sin are unbelievers. He convicts them of the sin of unbelief.

Study

And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. John 16:8 NAS

For many years as a Christian, I was told that, based on Jesus's words to his disciples in [John 16:8](#) and my sin consciousness, the Holy Spirit was convicting me of my sins. I was wrong. If we read verses 9-11, we see that Jesus thankfully took the time to expound on and clarify exactly what he meant.

Concerning sin [singular sin], because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you [believer] no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. John 16: 8-11 NAS

So, we learn directly from Jesus that the Holy Spirit convicts non-believers of the singular sin of unbelief.

He does not convict believers of sin.

He convicts believers of their righteousness (right standing with God). It would not be possible for the Holy Spirit to convict a person of being righteous before God and convict them of being a sinner before God. God is not the author of confusion. These are opposites and contradict each other. Once a person is righteous in Christ before God, they are righteous eternally.

In verse eleven, we see the Holy Spirit also convicts Satan of his judgment.

The Greek word for convict is ἐλέγξω. It is defined as: to convince with solid, compelling evidence. Are you convinced that you are righteous in Christ?

These verses also enforce another crucial truth. The contrast we see between a person who is convicted of sin versus a person convicted of righteousness is predicated solely on what is believed about Jesus. We are without a doubt the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is our advocate, comforter and helper and He testifies about great things to the believer.

*Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET. For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. **And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying,***

“THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM,” He then says, “AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE.”

Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin. Heb 10:11-18 NAS

The truth is, if we want to know how the Holy Spirit would treat a person, we just need to look at Jesus. When we look at Jesus, we see immense compassion, love, grace and forgiveness and no condemnation for sinners. Jesus tells us in the following verse that he would never accuse us to the Father.

***Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope.** John 5:45 NAS*

The Spirit that we have been given is the Spirit of God's Son. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Gal 4:6 NAS

The Holy Spirit came to fill the void upon Jesus's departure and only does what Jesus does. Jesus told us clearly that He only did what the Father did. When we see Jesus, not only can we see exactly what the Father looks like as Jesus told us, we can also see exactly what the Holy Spirit looks like.

*And I will ask the Father, and he will **give you another Helper**, to be with you forever. John 14:16 In other words, Jesus was our helper too.*

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and **bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.** [things like what Jesus said following] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:26-27 NAS*

*But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, **he will bear witness about me.** John 15:26*

*For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the Spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but **you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our Spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.** Rom 8:14-17a NAS*

***Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness.** For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but **the Spirit himself intercedes for us** with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because **the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.** Rom 8:26-27 NAS*

*But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"— **these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.** 1 Cor 2:9-10 NAS*

*Now we have received not the Spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, **that we might understand the things freely given us by God.** 1 Cor 2:12 NAS*

***For God gave us a Spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.** 2 Tim 1:7 NAS*

Thank you, Father, for sending the Holy Spirit (our comforter and advocate) to convince us with solid and compelling evidence of our right standing with you solely through our belief in Jesus.

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor 5:21 NAS

So, who is making me sin conscious?

While as a believer I stopped any major sins a long time ago, I still lived with a consciousness of my sins. This would lead to guilt and condemnation, which in turn would lead to more sin to try to escape the feelings of guilt and condemnation. It was like an addiction cycle.

I had heard preached and thought myself it was the Holy Spirit making me sin conscious. The years went by; I did not have the same sinful desires any longer. As time progressed further, even the smaller sinful things lost interest to me. I thought the closer I got to God, as the bigger sins were gone, the Spirit was simply pointing out the smaller sins that still existed. Today, based on scripture, I realize I was deceived.

It is clear from scripture, as we have just reviewed, that the Holy Spirit comes to convict believers of their righteousness in Christ. It is also clear from [Hebrews 10:2](#) that those who really believe Jesus's sacrifice worked should no longer be sin conscious, but instead Christ and forgiveness conscious. The Bible tells us that the law is what makes us sin conscious – see [Romans 3:20](#). To me, this along with the other points we have covered makes it clear that the Holy Spirit was not leading me to be sin conscious. This is especially true when we know for certain that God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are all in agreement with the main pillar of the New Covenant believers live under.

I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more. Heb 10:17

Today I know for certain that the cause of my sin consciousness was because of living partially under the Old Covenant law.

Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. John 5:45

Incorrectly thinking I was still under the law gave Satan a weapon against me. He is the accuser of the brethren. He accuses Christians day and night according to scripture. The Greek word translated “accuser” in the following verse is also defined as “prosecutor.”

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.” Rev 12:10

A light bulb moment: I used to be conscious of my sin's day and night. If that was the Holy Spirit as some claim, when was Satan talking to me?

The truth I now know is that as my bigger sins fell away, Satan would grasp for any sin, no matter how small, and point it out to keep me sin conscious, in guilt and condemnation. If we are sin conscious, we are living at least partially under the Old Covenant law of Moses that does not apply to us any longer. This keeps us focused on the problem (ourselves) and not Jesus (the solution). If we are sin conscious instead of Christ, forgiveness and righteousness conscious as we should be, we grieve the Holy Spirit who is constantly convicting us of our righteousness in Christ. Sin consciousness also leads us

to avoid God when we sin, thinking God has broken fellowship with us. This causes us to not go boldly to the throne when we sin, in our time of need, as the Bible tells us to do.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb 4:16

Satan wants to keep you from coming close to God where there is protection, blessings and great reward.

But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works. Psalm 73:28

Satan knows that if you are double minded about your salvation, sometimes thinking it is about Jesus alone and other times Jesus plus what you do, this double-mindedness will lead you to avoid God.

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. James 4:8

The truth is you, (your spirit) has been perfected, sanctified, made holy and righteous (right with God) by Jesus's one act on the cross. Satan does not want you to believe this truth.

Satan had been posing as an angel of light to keep me sin conscious and away from my heavenly Father. I know the truth now. How about you?

There are no verses that say the Holy Spirit convicts believers of sin. This is because believers are righteous in Christ. Jesus and the disciples never called a believer a hypocrite. This title was exclusively reserved for unbelievers, those who attempt to stand on their own self-righteousness.

The law was Satan's only weapon. If I incorrectly think it still applies to me, I rearm Satan in my mind and thoughts. We need to learn that we are no longer under the letter of the law of Moses, but under grace where sin has no dominion over us (Romans 6:14). If we falsely believe we are still under the law, sin (our fallen inherited sin nature that still dwells in our dead flesh) will again have dominion over us.

Worship: [Francesca Battistelli - Holy Spirit \(Official Audio\)](#)

More Related New Covenant Bible Studies:

[Will You Be Justified or Condemned by The Words You Speak?](#)

[Questioning Another's Salvation Creates Doubt, Does Satan's Work](#)

[Can We Really Identify a False Christian?](#)

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28 - Why Don't I Look Like a New Creation in Christ in the Mirror?

Most Christians have heard how important it is to understand who they are in Christ, their identity in Christ.

Greatly loved by God - [Ephesians 2:4](#)

*Forgiven of all our sins - [Ephesians 1:7](#)
Free from the law of sin and death - [Romans 8:2](#)
Righteous - [Rom 5:19](#)
Complete - [Colossians 2:10 NAS](#)
Justified - [1 Corinthians 6:11](#)
Sanctified - [Hebrews 10:10 NAS](#)
Holy and without blame - [Ephesians 1:4](#)
Perfected - [Hebrews 10:14 NAS](#)*

But when we look in the mirror, what we see does not always look like the new creation in Christ we are supposed to be.

Here is the problem: we see our unredeemed flesh in the mirror and not our perfected Spirit. We are called to see our flesh as crucified and dead and ourselves as alive in the Spirit. In other words, when we look at our flesh in the mirror or at other believers in the flesh, we are looking in the wrong place. This visible lack of change in the flesh has caused numerous believers to abandon the faith. We are so attuned to the flesh with ourselves and others. The problem is that the mirror is all about sight and has nothing to do with faith. We are called to walk by faith and not by sight.

For we walk by faith, not by sight—2 Cor 5:7 NAS

To run this race well, we fix our eyes on Jesus and not our dead flesh.

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Heb 12:1-2 NAS

To see ourselves in Christ as described in the Bible takes faith. This means we agree with what God, who lives outside of time, sees already and tells us is true. What God tells us is true is as good as done; we are simply called to believe. When we do, strongholds fall and bondages disappear, as we walk in the power of God.

We are not transformed by looking at our flesh in the mirror: we are transformed into His image by beholding the glory of the Lord as if we are looking at ourselves in His reflection. We are now the reflection of Christ, not our unredeemed flesh. When we believe and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, we become more like Him.

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. 2 Cor 3:18 NAS

When we stop looking at things in the flesh as the world does and renew our minds to this truth, we are transformed.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Rom 12:2 NAS

Not only do we see ourselves in the Spirit as perfected, but we are also called to see other believers the same way. Doing so helps us more than it helps them, because it sharpens our spiritual eyesight. So, instead of seeing things in the flesh one moment and in the Spirit the next, we stay in the Spirit as we are called to do, no longer regarding anyone according to the flesh.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 2 Cor 5:16

Seeing things as God does will foster faith and grace. If we understand that believers are not their flesh, we will show them more grace. We will not judge them or count their sins against them, just like God does with us.

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. Heb 8:12 KJV

Instead, we will build them up in the faith, just as Jesus did with the apostles and Paul did with the church. We will do so even more when they have fallen deep into sin like the Corinthians. We encourage ourselves and other believers to walk by faith and not by sight, exactly as we are supposed to do. God has made us a promise in [John 3:16](#). Either you believe it is true and God can fulfill His promise, or you do not. If you are smart, you believe Him and leave the entire burden of this promise on God's shoulders. The burden of a promise is always on the promise maker.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16 NAS

The work is finished: the only one that wants you to doubt is the enemy. As Jesus said numerous times, stop doubting your Father's promise and just believe.

Worship: [Lauren Daigle - You Say \(Official Music Video\)](#)

Learn more about the New Covenant and the division of the flesh and the Spirit in these studies:

[How is the Flesh Crucified?](#)

[Your Flesh is Dead, Christian, Not in School](#)

[If Your Faith is in Christ, Your Flesh Has Been Circumcised, Cut Off](#)

[What Does the Bible Mean by Dead Works?](#)

* * *

[29 - God Will Provide for His Ambassadors](#)

Can you imagine the United States of America or even the smallest and poorest country in the world sending ambassadors to other countries without providing them financial support for their mission? Can you imagine God doing any less than man does?

Christians are Ambassadors for the Kingdom of God.

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 2 Cor 5:20

While death is an enemy of God, He can and does use death at times to save the believer from evil in this world.

The righteous man perishes, and no man takes it to heart; And devout men are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous man is taken away from evil. Isa 57:1 NAS

So, why doesn't God take all believers immediately to be with Him once they place their faith in Jesus?

The reason is that we have a mission. We are no longer of this world: we belong to God's kingdom and are kept safe under grace, protected from the evil one, sent into the world as ambassadors.

I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. John 17: 15-18

God has a plan for your life if he left you here as an ambassador, even if you do not understand it yet. One simple thing you do might bring a tidal wave of change. Maybe one person or many will believe because of your work, or you could be here to support, pray and show others the love of Christ. There are many members of the body of Christ. God loves and values all His ambassadors alike. Our main mission is to lead others to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ so that our King's desire --that as many as possible be saved - will be accomplished to the highest degree possible.

Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim 2:4

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

Since we are here to do the work of God, on a mission of utmost importance, led by and sent out by Jesus, do you doubt that God will provide for us? God provided everything Jesus needed to complete His mission. Jesus tells us that the Father loves us as much as He loves Jesus. He will provide.

I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. John 17:23

Truth be told, most of us live like we do not believe God will take care of us, even though the following promise and *specific instructions on how to get what we need the right way* came directly from His only begotten and beloved Son, Jesus.

Do Not Be Anxious

*Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. **But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.** Matt 6:25-33*

If you know anything about God's Word, it goes to great lengths to tell us not to doubt, fear or worry.

Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. Matt 6:34

For God gave us a Spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Tim 1:7

The spirit of power, love and a sound mind are given to us as ambassadors to help us complete our mission. The enemy will do all he can to create doubt about God's promises and impede our mission. Do you think being put in prison could have led Paul into doubt if he has let it? We need to be established in the truth that God will make everything work out for good and provide and guard us in this world, just like he did for Paul, as we live out our holy calling to spread the good news.

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. 2 Tim 1:8-14

And also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. Eph 6:19-20

Fear and worry come when we doubt God. The only one seeking to foster doubt about our salvation and God's provision is Satan. The enemy seeks to impede our mission in all ways possible: To divide believers and conquer. Doubt, lies and distractions are his biggest weapons.

One of the Enemy's Biggest Deceptions for Ambassadors

Chasing circumstantial peace, *the world's kind of peace*, is one of the enemy's biggest deceptions used against God's ambassadors. It combines doubt that leads to fear and worry with the lie that the peace that comes from improved circumstances is the answer. This leads the ambassador to be distracted, attempting to provide for themselves instead of trusting God. Once the circumstances improve, another challenge comes the believer's way and they find themselves distracted again from God's work and praying for circumstances to change. This is a never-ending cycle when one lives in a fallen world.

The only way to end this cycle of doubt and distraction of seeking the world's peace is first to understand that circumstantial peace is not the answer, no matter what your situation may be. Stop praying for your circumstances to change and start seeking and praying for Jesus's peace in all circumstances. Reject the world's peace and seek only the true peace that Jesus left us that overcomes all circumstances. It is the most beautiful peace imaginable. After years of chasing the world's false peace, I am finally tasting Jesus's peace. I want more of it, and you will too.

The great news is that when Jesus's peace shows up in your life in living color, circumstances can and do often change. But even if they do not, everything will look totally different to you as you walk out your mission for God in His peace. Many issues that seemed important enough to worry about will clearly be temporal and unimportant. Fear will be cast out because you will be established in the perfect love God has for you.

How Christian Ambassadors Can Walk in His Peace and Complete Their Mission

First, acknowledge the truth that God would never send you out as an ambassador for His Kingdom without providing support. If the enemy attacks you with fear and worries about financial and other things, say the following out loud: for your benefit and to remind Satan.

"God always provides for His ambassadors. He will never let me down. I am the righteousness of God in Christ."

If you feel like you do not have God's support and are striving and struggling, admit to yourself that your thinking must be in error when it comes to God's Word. Are you willing to do things God's way now? Are you ready for God to do the heavy lifting? Continue reading and learn what stops the enemy's attacks of fear, worry, guilt, and

shame. Renew your mind by firmly establishing yourself in His righteousness that assures us of His undying love for us.

The Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Rom 14:7

Righteousness, peace, and joy are listed in order like dominos. Once you knock down the first one and are firmly established in His righteousness, the others fall one after the other. We do not need God's righteousness. We already have it: we just need to believe and be established in it in our minds.

In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you. Isa 54:14

And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. Isa 32:17

Once you are firmly established in His righteousness in your mind, you will know for certain that you have peace with God, that Jesus finished the work of your righteousness completely. Salvation is truly by grace through faith alone, and there is nothing you need to do other than believe God, you are forgiven and righteous. Once you wholeheartedly do, the fruits of the Spirit will be produced through the branch that is you.

This is the peace which leads to joy. The knowledge of His righteous also leads to all the things we need in this world as ambassadors. God will not leave His ambassadors stranded, providing abundantly for those who trust and do things His way, the way that works for certain. We need to stop trying to do things our way.

But SEEK FIRST the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matt 6:33

Therefore, if we are not walking in Jesus's peace that overcomes all circumstance, God's word tells us that we lack an understanding of His righteousness that has been imputed by grace to the undeserving. Just like sin was imputed onto Jesus who did not sin, God imputes His righteousness to us who did not do right to earn it. Being established in His righteousness, not our works and law keeping, is the key that opens the door to the Kingdom of God.

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor 5:21

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

If you lack His peace to complete your mission, you do not believe you are as righteous as you will ever be. Stop thinking about your flesh. It will never be righteous and therefore must die. You are a spirit, and Jesus has made you righteous, as right with God as you will ever be. If we do not believe this is true, we trample on the blood of

Jesus's perfect sacrifice and grieve the Holy Spirit who testifies to believers of their righteousness in Christ, not their sin.

*Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me [**convicts unbelievers of sin of unbelief**]; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer [**spoken to disciples, convicts believers of their righteousness -- not sin**]; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. John 16:7-11 (clarification mine)*

Our righteousness has nothing to do with the failures or law keeping of our flesh, as Satan wants us to believe. Once you believe correctly about God's righteousness, you will walk by the Spirit and by default not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. Walking by the Spirit is walking in love, the only thing that fulfills all of God's commands by default ([Rom 13:8-10](#)).

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Rom 13:8-10

For years now, you have been focused on what you think the problem is: sin. But sin has been fully dealt with by Jesus. All payment has been made and no further sacrifices are required. Now you need to change your focus away from your sins onto the permanent solution: Jesus's perfect sacrifice. When Satan points out your failure, point him to the cross and tell him Jesus paid for that one too, and that He is your righteousness. The way to be transformed is to no longer be conscious of your sins. ([Hebrews 10:2](#)) Behold His glory instead, replacing your sin consciousness with being conscious of your righteousness in Christ.

Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? Heb 10:2

Behold -- focus solely on -- Jesus's finished work and know for certain it applies to you. Renew your mind with the Word of righteousness.

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Cor 3:18

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Rom 12:2

You must decide to reject any doubt about God's promises. You must reject worry and fear.

Satan has used these for years to torment you, and this must stop now. Live one day at a time, one hour or minute if need be, and reject these things as Jesus instructs you to.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27

Your initial step is to dive into studies on His righteousness and the New Covenant Jesus shed His blood for and be set free. As an ambassador, all your sins have been forgiven and you are living under grace and not under the law. Under grace, where there is no law, sin cannot be imputed.

For sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Rom 5:13

For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. Rom 4:15

God is not counting our sins in the New Covenant.

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more. Heb 8:12

That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 2 Cor 5:19

Blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." Rom 4:8

Once you are firmly established in His righteousness, you will walk in the power of God's peace. Jesus never allowed anyone to steal the power of His peace or to doubt His right standing with our Father even when the Pharisees accused Him of sin. His peace will allow you to see opportunities you would miss if you were seeking circumstantial peace. You will move at God's pace and not rush around in fear. You have eternity: plenty of time to do everything you want to do, more than once if you desire. You will know that God takes care of His ambassadors in all circumstances. You will sleep like a baby with a quiet mind.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:7

And I will make peace your administrators and righteousness your overseers. Isa 60:17b NAS

Worship: [It Is Well - Kristene DiMarco & Bethel Music - You Make Me Brave](#)

More Related New Covenant Studies:

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[Jesus's Specific Prayer for Your Life, Christian](#)
[My Biggest Error as a Christian and How to Avoid It](#)

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30 - What is the One Unforgivable Sin?

This study goes in depth with abundant scripture to prove what the Bible teaches is the only unforgivable sin. It is crucial to grasp that there is only one unforgivable sin, and it is not a sin a believer can commit. Get your Bible out and study with me.

Study

While the title of this article and the Word of God both state there is only one unforgivable sin, I believe it is worth stating it emphatically. There is only one unforgivable sin. In other words, many of the sins people claim are unforgivable are indeed forgivable.

Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. **Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.** And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, **but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven**, either in this age or in the age to come. Matt 12:30-32

Jesus, speaking before the cross, is very clear that **EVERY** (all, the whole, every kind of – Strongs 3956) **sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people**. Wow. That is a powerful statement.

Jesus is not placing any conditions on every sin and blasphemy being forgiven. He is saying this will be done, period. He then lists **ONLY ONE** exception. If we can discover what this one sin is, we will know that everything else is forgivable.

To most, it is obvious that this sin is unbelief. Believers are called righteous in the Bible, which means right with God. Unbelievers by default are the unrighteous.

Repent Greek defined = change mind.

I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Luke 13:5
NAS

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.
Mark 1:15 NAS

Jesus says it is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit that is unforgivable, so let's review and see if unbelief is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit Comes

Jesus told this to the disciples, who were believers:

"And He, when He (Holy Spirit) comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment" John 16:8 NAS

For many years as a Christian, I was told that, based on Jesus's words to his disciples in [John 16:8](#), the Holy Spirit convicts us of our sins. However, if we read verses 9-11, we see that Jesus expounds on and clarifies exactly what he meant.

Concerning sin [singular sin], because they [unbelievers] do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you [disciples/believers] no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world [Satan] has been judged (John 16: 8-11 NAS).

So, we learn directly from Jesus that the Holy Spirit convicts non-believers of the singular sin of unbelief. He also convicts believers not of sin, but of righteousness (our right standing with God). In verse 11 we see the Holy Spirit also convicts Satan of his judgment. The Greek word for convict is *elégxÅ*. It is defined as "to *convince* with solid, compelling *evidence*." So, the Holy Spirit shows unbelievers their sin of unbelief with solid, compelling evidence.

In his letter to the Romans, Paul emphasizes the compelling evidence God provides.

"For what can be known about God is plain to them [those who refuse to believe in God], because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So, they are without excuse." Rom 1:19-20 NAS

The Holy Spirit convicts unbelievers of their inherited sin nature and need for a Savior and the sin of unbelief by testifying to them about Jesus, the Son of God, and about eternal life in the Son. If they continue to reject and blaspheme the Holy Spirit's true testimony, the unbelievers are calling the Holy Spirit/God a liar.

But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. 1 Cor 2:14 NAS

They have committed the one unforgivable sin, assuming they hold to this position until death. In 1 John 5:12, it states that a person who does this "does not have life."

Jesus also states that this will "not be forgiven in this age or in the age to come." In other words, we need to make the decision here in this life if we are offered the gospel.

*This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. **And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.** For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. **Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.** And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God **does not have life.** 1 John 5:6-12 NAS*

Therefore, the ONE unforgivable sin is continued unbelief despite the Holy Spirit's testimony that convicts them of their error. This makes perfect sense since the only way any person was ever declared righteous in the entire Bible was by believing.

In the end, the rejection of Jesus is the ONLY unforgivable sin, as these two verses reveal.

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. John 3:18 NAS

So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. Matt 10:32-33 NAS

The Righteous in the Bible are those Who are Righteous by Faith: Believers.

It is only those who refuse to believe who are referred to as wicked or evil because they refuse to be cleansed by the blood of Christ. It is His righteousness as listed in [Matt 6:33](#) they need.

The righteous/believers/holy/sanctified/perfected/cleansed/ saints/light/etc. And the unrighteous/unbelievers/wicked/ evil unholy/ungodly/lawless/darkness/etc. are contrasted numerous times in scripture.

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 2 Cor 6:14 NIV

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? 2 Cor 6:14

So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief. Heb 3:19

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. Heb 3:12

A Believer Cannot Commit the Unforgivable Sin

This tells us for certain that a believer cannot commit the unforgivable sin. It is logical since there is only one unforgivable sin. Therefore, suicide, homosexuality, believers not confessing their sins ([1 John 1:9](#)) and any other sins that you have been told are unforgivable are actually forgivable. Let that peace wash over you.

Additionally, this refutes the claim that [1 John 1:9](#) teaches a believer must ask for forgiveness every time they sin, or they will not be forgiven. If that were true, that would make non-confession of sins by believers the one unforgivable sin. That would mean unbelief by believers is forgivable, which makes no sense.

[1 John 1:9](#) is a salvation verse written to the Gnostics, who did not believe in sin or that Jesus came in the flesh. If you read 1 John 1, you can clearly see John is making a salvation plea. By the way, God never instructs us to withhold forgiveness unless a person asks for it. Why would anyone think we would be held to a higher standard than God?

If you are an unbeliever, the good news is that the way to Jesus is still open to you no matter how you may have rejected Him to this point. God loves you and wants to save you. You do not want to die without His saving grace.

We have an amazing God who loves us very much. It is very easy to be saved, but it was not cheap. God gave his only begotten Son for us—the Son he dearly loves, the best He could give. He gave everything. Just believe, and you will be saved and inherit eternal life.

If you are a believer, the good news is that the Holy Spirit (our comforter and advocate) is here to convince you with solid and compelling evidence of your right standing with God and righteousness in Christ. If you are sin conscious instead of righteousness conscious, you cannot lose your salvation, but you grieve the Holy Spirit and you are making this life much more difficult for yourself.

He [God the Father] made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him [Jesus].
2 Cor 5:21 NAS

I can tell you without hesitation that it is Satan who wants us to believe we are not totally forgiven of all our sins. He wants us to think we are not forgiven or can lose our salvation/ inheritance by committing outward acts of sin. He does not want us to know unbelief in the gospel is the only unforgivable sin. The more we think we are not forgiven of all our sins or that we can lose our salvation, the higher the chance we could turn back to unbelief. Love is the one thing that fulfills all of God's laws ([Rom 13:8-10](#)), the one way a Christian can overcome acts of sin in this life. The enemy knows that the only way a Christian will ever fulfill the law by walking in the Spirit of love in their daily walk is to lean heavily on their total and complete forgiveness in Christ. The only way to walk in that love is to believe we are forgiven. [Luke 7:47](#) say's those who think they are forgiven little will love little, which means they will sin more. [2 Peter 1:9](#) tells us that those who do not really believe they are forgiven will lack faith, goodness, knowledge, perseverance, godliness, mutual affection, and love: the fruits we need to overcome outward acts of sin.

The answer is to just believe God's word. You are totally forgiven and greatly loved by God. Unbelief is the only unforgivable sin.

Worship: [This I Believe \(The Creed\) - Hillsong Worship](#)

More New Covenant Bible Studies that Apply:

[Who is Jesus Talking to when he Says, "Depart from Me. I Never Knew You?"](#)

[Go and Sin No More Does Not Mean God is Going to Get You](#)

[Adam's Sin Was Unbelief](#)

[These People Will Not Inherit the Kingdom of God](#)

[Paul's Method for Talking to Christians Caught in Sin](#)

* * *

31 - I Am a New Creation IN CHRIST

This is who you are IN CHRIST right now!

Easily print the following article here:

<http://articles.faithwriters.com/print.php?article=36707>, keep it in your Bible, and make it your resolution to commit it to memory.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Cor 5:17

I Am Loved by My Father as Much as He Loves Jesus.

I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. John 17:23 NLT

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. John 15:9

For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. John 16:27

And to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Eph 3:19

I Am Free Forever from the Fear of God's Judgment.

If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. John 12:47

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:17

You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. John 8:15

I Am Free of the Fear that God is Angry with Me, IN CHRIST.

This is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, and will not rebuke you. Isaiah 54:9

You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me." Isa 12:1

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:5

I Am Completely Forgiven of Past, Present and Future Sins.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, Eph 1:7

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Heb 10:14

He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Heb 7:27

I Am Free from Sin's Dominion of Fear and Death.

For Sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. Rom 6:14

And deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. Heb 2:15

And which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 2 Tim 1:10

The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 1 Cor 15:26

I Am Free Forever from Condemnation.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Rom 8:1

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. John 3:18

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

I Am Reconciled to God.

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them. 2 Cor 5:18-19a

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Rom 5:10

More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. Rom 5:11

I Am Free from the Lie that God is Counting and Remembering My Sins.

For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. Jer 31:34b

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more. Heb 8:12

Then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Heb 10:17

I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. Isaiah 43:25

I Am Righteous -- Right with God -- by the Blood of Jesus.

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor 5:21

So by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. Rom 5:19b

For our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. Rom 4:24 NLT

For if, because of one man's trespass [Adam], death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Rom 5:17

This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD. Isaiah 54:17

I Am Forever Conscious of His Righteousness in Me, Not My Sin.

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

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matt 6:33

Because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. Heb 10:2 KJV

The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction Rom 3:22

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Heb 12:2 NAS

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. 2 Cor 3:18 NAS

I Am Sanctified -- Made Holy -- by Jesus's Blood.

And by that will we have been sanctified [made holy] through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Heb 10:10

For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, Heb 2:11

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Cor 6:11

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus. Heb 3:1 KJV

Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. Eph 5:25b-26

Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. Eph 1:4

Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy." Acts 10:15 NAS

I Am Perfect in My Heavenly Father's Eyes.

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Heb 10:14 NAS

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 1 John 4:18

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

I Am Free from Death.

For as by a man [Adam] came death, by a man [Jesus] has come also the resurrection of the dead. 1 Cor 15:21

For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. Rom 8:2

And everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. John 11:26

I Am No Longer a Slave.

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

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36

So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law. Gal 5:1 NLT

I Am Free from the Law that Gave Sin the Power to Kill Me.

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 1 Cor 15:56

He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. Col 2:15

For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. Rom 4:15

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

I Am Justified, Made Righteous, Just as if I Had Never Sinned.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rom 5:1

For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. Rom 3:28

Who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. Rom 4:25

And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. Acts 13:39

I Am God's Child.

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12

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

Or they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. Luke 20:36

I Am a Saint.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus. Eph 1:1

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours 1 Cor 1:2

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Col 1:12

I Am Redeemed and Forgiven.

In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:14

And are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, Rom 3:24

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, Eph 1:7

I Am Free from Guilt.

*And those whom He has pre-destined He also has called; and those whom He has called He has also declared free from guilt; and those whom He has declared free from guilt He has also crowned with glory. Rom 8:30
WNT*

Know that it is not through obedience to Law that a man can be declared free from guilt, but only through faith in Jesus Christ. We have therefore

believed in Christ Jesus, for the purpose of being declared free from guilt, through faith in Christ and not through obedience to Law. For through obedience to Law no human being shall be declared free from guilt. Gal 2:16 WNT

I do not nullify the grace of God; for if acquittal from guilt is obtainable through the Law, then Christ has died in vain. Gal 2:21 WNT

I Am Free from Shame

As it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." Rom 9:33

For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." Rom 10:11

Fear not, for you will not be ashamed; be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. Isa 54:4

I Am Complete IN CHRIST.

And IN HIM you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority. Col 2:10

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Gal 2:20 **I Am a Co-Heir with Christ.***

So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. Gal 4:7

And if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ. Rom 8:17s

Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. Eph 1:14

I Am Forever in the Love of God.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8

Nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rom 8:39

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

I Am Assured That God Will Use Even Bad Things for My Good.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. Rom 8:28

The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Isa 57:1 NIV

As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. Gen 50:20

I Am Strengthened by Christ to do All Things.

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Phil 4:13

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Cor 12:9

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service. 1 Tim 1:12

I Am a Citizen of Heaven.

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Phil 3:20

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. John 17:14

They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. John 17:16

I Am Free to Boldly Approach the Throne of Grace in my Time of Need.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

In whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. Eph 3:12

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. 2 Cor 3:4

I Am Free from Fear.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 1 John 4:18

So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" Heb 13:6

I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. Luke 12:4

For God gave us a Spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Tim 1:7

Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you. Deut 31:6

I Am His Forever.

I will never leave you nor forsake you. Heb 13:5

I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. Psalm 37:25

And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you. Psalm 9:10

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Rom 11:19

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Worship: [Who You Say I Am - Hillsong Worship](#)

Jesus poured out His blood for the New Covenant of grace and truth, replacing the Old Covenant law of Moses. Believers are exclusively under the New Covenant, the last will and testament of Jesus that began after the cross.

And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20

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